INTERNATIONAL RESULTS AND TABLES

WORLD SOCCER

MARCH 1993 £1.60

DENMARK DKR. 39.50
GREECE DRA. 700.00
HOLLAND DFL. 7.95
SPAIN PTAS. 570.00

FREE

16 page all-colour Euro Cups Special Pullout

Ian Rush– Liverpool Backlash!

Benfica's **Futre** Fiasco

USA's U.K. Connection

Wegerle
Harkes
Keller

American Airlines DALLAS CUP XIV

Van Breukelen– Man to stop Milan

Signori's spooky secret

9 770043 903026 03

MARCH 1993 Vol.33 No.6

Contents

April issue on sale March 19

2-3 Crosstalk . . . PSV Eindhoven and Dutch international keeper Hans Van Breukelen.

4-5 Keir Radnedge Commentary . . . an incisive look at the good and bad in soccer.

6-7 News . . . the Paulo Futre furore plunges Lisbon in to turmoil.

8-31 European Scene . . . correspondents around the Continent review the past and look at the future with features on Andy Herzog of Werder Bremen and Benfica manager Toni.

18-19 Brooking Talkback . . . former England international Trevor Brooking replies to the pick of the letters.

32-33 Up and coming . . . a preview of the World Youth Championships in Australia.

34-37 United Kingdom . . . the scene in the home countries, including features on the Scandinavian invasion of the Premier League and Aston Villa's secret weapon!

38 TV schedule . . . and crossword.

40-43 Diary . . . including the quiz with an anonymous winner!

46-48 South America . . . where even the youth competitions are marred by violence.

50 Africa . . . Ivory Coast's soccer history.

52-53 North America . . . all about ticket prices for US '94, the Canadian collapse, plus Harkes, Wegerle and Keller.

54-55 Asia . . . news from around the continent.

56-60 Results . . . the invaluable service, including World Cup and domestic updates.

62-63 Glanville's Last Word . . . a top columnist's individual view.

Published by
ipcmagazines
Distributed by IPC Marketforce

Editor KEIR RADNEDGE
Managing Editor PETER STEWART
Group Art Editor STAN McDONALD
Design DARREN KIRK
Picture Editor DUNCAN BOND
Editorial: Tel:071 2615737 Fax:071 261 5007
Advertising Manager JULIAN CLARKE
Publisher ANDY McDUFF
Associate Publisher DAVID J.SMITH
Advertising: Tel: 071 261 5702
Subscriptions JACKIE BALDWIN Tel: 0444 445325
North American Enquiries: New York, NY 1001Y. Tel: (212) 867-2080 Fax: (212) 983-0745

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW BY **KEIR RADNEDGE**

THE ONLY MAN

WORLD SOCCER: ***Milan are the only team in the Champions League to have won both their matches; they are running away with the Italian Championship. Many people say that you — both representing PSV and, personally, as PSV's goalkeeper — are the only man now who can stop Milan winning everything in sight. But . . . do you see it that way?***

HANS VAN BREUKELEN: It's not as simple as that. That's certainly not the way I look at it. Before the very first round of the Champions' Cup, before anyone even reached the Champions League, Milan were the absolute top favourites.

Unfortunately we could not hold them to even a draw in Eindhoven so, at the moment, our destiny is out of our hands. We have to keep our fingers crossed for FC Porto against Milan. Then, maybe, we'll see.

WS: ***PSV won the Champions' Cup in 1988. But, since then, little has gone right for you. Why?***

HVB: It's three years now that we have been struggling in Europe. It's frustrating. It's annoying. In 1990 we lost in the first round of the Cup-winners' Cup to Montpellier. We were a bit unfortunate. We had two key players injured. The same thing happened in the second round of the Champions' Cup the next season against Anderlecht. Romario, Kieft and Vanenburg were all out injured and these are key players.

WS: ***So, this season, you were probably happy just to reach the last eight?***

HVB: Exactly. That, for me, was a sign that PSV are on the way back. But we knew we would then need a lot of luck if we were to mount a serious challenge to Milan and finish top of the group. We had to play Milan at home without Van Tiggelen, who was suspended, without Van Aerle, who was injured, and without Popescu. So we had to face Van Basten without our three most experienced defenders.

We lost, of course, by 2-1. But I was very pleased that we came back the way we did thanks to a goal by Romario. We could have had a draw. Frank Rijkaard knocked a ball down with his hand but it was our bad luck that the referee did not see it. Anyway, Milan deserved to win so I'm not complaining. I was happy that, after some disappointing seasons, we had shown that we were back as a force at European top level.

WS: ***For the first time since you won the Champions' Cup in 1988?***

HVB: The following season we reached the quarter-finals. But after that our standards slipped. It happens all the time in football. It's almost impossible to stay on the top all the time.

WS: ***Is that a problem of management or mental attitude?***

HVB: A little of both. For example, in the last few years at PSV we have had a lot of quality players but, at the top European level, we haven't been able to capitalise on all that ability. Bobby Robson, in the two years he was our coach, tried very hard to make us a team and Hans Westerhof is doing the same now but we still have problems every year. I don't know what it is with the players. It's to do with mental approach. Somehow — and I see this very well from being in goal — we can't play consistently enough as a real team. And the strange thing is, however good the management, we always have our worst problems after the winter break.

WS: ***Football people in England are discussing the merits of a winter break. Obviously you would not recommend it?***

HVB: I would not! I would scrap it. It's no use to us. Look at what's happened this season. We went into the winter break in Holland with a four-point lead. Now, after starting up again, we have lost 3-1 to Volendam and then 3-0 at home to RKC. A disaster. Maybe, it sounds a little crazy, but perhaps we have too many good players at PSV. What's most important is getting the right balance. Some players will have to go and some new ones will have to be brought in. That's a decision for the management. The infuriating thing is that we know we

WHO CAN STOP MILAN?

can do better and we must do better. But it's easier said than done at a club like PSV.

WS: You've seen Milan at (very) close range. Are they really as good as their results have led everyone to believe?
HVB: In a word: Yes. Just watch them play, either in the stadium or on TV and you can see so many good things about their game. For instance, when they gain possession they come out of defence very quickly . . . as a team. Then they put pressure on you . . . as a team. They play — literally — so close to one another on the pitch it's not easy for the opposition to break down Milan's game or find the room to play their own.

Another thing: a lot of teams, when they have the ball, go backwards. They move the ball around the back of defence. Not Milan. They use 4-4-2 without a sweeper so they can press forward against you all the time.

WS: No doubt the quality of their players helps?
HVB: Well, they do have a couple of good players (!). But what's important is that they all play the system. It

Simone scores Milan's second goal in Eindhoven.

doesn't matter who comes in or who goes out, even with the foreigners. It's always the same system and they all put their talent and ability at the service of the system and the team. That's what real star quality means. Look at it this way: I can be the best goalkeeper in the world and make all the best saves. I can play a wonderful season. But if the team aren't winning I feel lousy. Take Romario: he can score 25 goals a season, no problem. But if the team doesn't win he feels terrible. So he must, first, put his goals at the service of the team. If everyone plays his part in the team then PSV win and we, as individuals, are all on top of the world. It's about getting your priorities right. Like Milan. Their players are stars because the team is successful. Not the other way round.

WS: Management has a key role in all of that, surely? Management buys the players, then selects them.
HVB: Of course. You absolutely cannot have a player insisting he must play in a special way if this does not suit the rest of the team. And if his pride won't let him do that then there should be no place for him and he must be sold somewhere else.

I've heard David Platt is not happy because Trapattoni at Juventus wants to play him deep in midfield. But if that's what they tell him, then that's what he must do.

WS: Does that suggest a problem in the way most non-British clubs operate — with a coach who is concerned only with the team and then a general manager who is responsible for the transfers?
HVB: It works like this: at PSV we have Kees Ploegsma, who is the manager. He is the administration. He represents long-term continuity and strategy. He hires the coach and tells him: "We like to play football in this style. What players do you need?"

Then the coach makes his recommendations and it's up to the manager to negotiate the transfers and the contracts. Of course, if things don't work out, then someone has to go. Maybe the coach. Maybe the players. It's not easy to be rational about this because football is all about emotion. I know it because I admit I am not a very patient person. I work with the sole intention of being the best keeper at all levels. If I can't be that, then I feel miserable.

WS: But now you're in the last eight of the Champions' Cup you're happy again?
HVB: Of course, for many reasons. It's important on a sporting level and it's important from a financial point of view. PSV lost out on a lot of money in the last couple of seasons, being knocked out of Europe in the first and second rounds. Now that PSV are in the Champions League the club can make a lot of money which, in turn, means the club can buy better players, that gives us a better chance of winning the championship and going back into the Champions League.

WS: How do you like the Champions League?
HVB: Personally, I preferred the old system. I love the drama, the feeling of adrenalin which you get in a knock-out cup competition. I think you get the best out of yourself, as a player, when you know everything depends on just two games. It psyches you up. At the moment it's too much like the early rounds of the European Championship or World Cup. All the time you're counting points. That's not good for football. So I'm delighted they may change the system for next season and add two semi-finals in which the winning club in each group will play the runners-up from the other group. That will mean extra excitement with the semi-finals and it will add to the drama within the Champions League groups. It could be complicated because the fixture list is already so crowded. Perhaps the semi-finals could be one-off matches, at neutral venues.

WS: Already you have retired from the Dutch national team. Have you set a date to retire from the club game as well?
HVB: Yes. I have 18 months left on my present contract with PSV. After that I will be the reserve goalkeeper for a year to help the new man and also to help myself wind down after so many years at top level.

WS: What's your ambition?
HVB: I would like to be a manager of a club. Not a coach; a manager. I would like the opportunity to put my experience to work building up a club and a team. But the problem is I would not want to start too far down the scale. It would have to be a club with some potential and, of course, there will be experienced managers competing for these jobs as well. Bayern Munich have very kindly invited me to spend two weeks there, studying how they run their organisation.

If that doesn't come off then I would like to develop a project on which I am already working to help finance and encourage young Dutch sports people with potential to make the best of their ability. I remember, when I was playing in Nottingham, the local council helped with a grant for the skaters Torvill and Dean. In Holland we have nothing like that. I'd like to help. After all, I like to think I know something about achieving success in sport.

PRO-FILE

HANS VAN BREUKELEN

PSV EINDHOVEN AND HOLLAND

Previous clubs: Utrecht, Nottingham Forest.

Born: October 4, 1956

Caps: 73.

HONOURS

European Championship: 1988

Champions' Cup: 1988

Dutch League: 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, 1992.

Dutch Cup: 1988, 1989, 1990.

Best of the bunch

WS: Which was your most important save . . . and which was your best?
HVB: The most important save was from the penalty taken by Veloso of Benfica when PSV won the Champions' Cup Final in Stuttgart in 1988 in a shoot-out (right). As for the best save, that was in a World Cup qualifying match against Hungary in Budapest in 1985. As usual, with Holland, we had left all our work until the end and we had to win to qualify to play Belgium in a play-off. We were winning 1-0 when Hungary got a corner. When the ball came over one of their players, I think it was Nyilasi, shot from close range — about seven yards. It was going in the goal, for sure. But somehow I managed to get a hand up to the ball and push it over the bar. I don't know how I did it. But I knew, straightaway, that was something special. Our right back, Ben Wijnstekers, thought the same because he kissed me on the lips!

WS: If you had to pick a match to remember?
HVB: When we beat Germany 2-1 in Hamburg in the semi-finals of the European Championship in 1988. That was something special. At the end we could not believe we had done it. You have to remember all the history between Germany and Holland. Then, I remember watching the 1974 World Cup on television. I was a kid. We had the team to win it, but you know what happened. And for 14 years it seemed we could not beat the Germans. After we won in Hamburg we went on to win the Final against the Soviet Union, as well. But then I think everybody went a little crazy. For the next two years, we never played one good game. We could not get our feet back on the ground and, of course, the Germans beat us in the second round of the 1990 World Cup in Italy. Only then could we see how stupid we had been. We had lost only one player: Arnold Muhren. It wasn't losing him which made the difference. It was our mental approach.

WS: Was it the same story in Sweden, at the European Championship finals last year?
HVB: We thought, after the 1990 World Cup, we had learned our lesson. Everything looked hopeful when we went to Sweden and we deserved to reach the semi-finals. But then, against Denmark (below), we didn't stick to our tasks. We lost our discipline and some players threw it away. You have to remember we played a very difficult system with three men at the back and only a three-man midfield. But the wingers didn't come back to support the midfield as they should have done.

THE KEIR RADNEDGE

COMMENTARY FROM LISBON

MARCO VAN BASTEN was hailed as FIFA Footballer of the Year at the World Football Gala staged in Estoril, Portugal. The Gala, established as the most prestigious social event in the world football calendar, was hosted by FIFA together with adidas and the Portuguese sports newspaper *A Bola* and supported by ESM, the European Sports Magazines organisation in which *WORLD SOCCER* holds exclusive United Kingdom membership. Senior figures from within the international game — officials, players and media — were present to hail not only Van Basten but other award-winners.

WORLD FOOTBALL GALA AWARDS

Supported by FIFA, A Bola, adidas and ESM (European Sports Magazines)

FIFA Footballer of the Year

1 .... Marco Van Basten ..... Milan ..... Holland
2 .... Hristo Stoichkov ..... Barcelona ..... Bulgaria
3 .... Thomas Hassler ..... Roma ..... Germany

Vitor Santos Award for special service to football: Rinus Michels.

European Championship Golden Boot:
Thomas Hassler (Roma & Germany)

***RTP* (Portuguese TV) award for services to Portuguese football:**
Artur Jorge (coach, Paris Saint-Germain)

Portuguese Footballer of the Year:
Vitor Baia (FC Porto)

Portuguese League top scorer:
Ricky Owubokiri (Boavista)

Most promising Portuguese player:
Helder (Benfica)

MINE HOST

A BOLA is not merely a sports newspaper but the biggest selling paper of any shape or size in Portugal. It's 48 years old, nicknamed "The Bible", and its staff worked round the clock to ensure the success of FIFA's World Football Gala. Obrigado!

Prize guys . . . Hassler, Van Basten and Ladislav Kubala with Sepp Blatter.

Three points for a win in World Cup

We have to adapt, says Blatter

FIFA are poised to switch to three points for a win in the first round groups of next year's World Cup finals — but there will NOT be any fences dividing supporters from superstars. That's the promise of FIFA general secretary SEPP BLATTER in this exclusive interview in Lisbon.

Top table . . . left to right: Antonio Florencio (A Bola), Van Basten, Hassler and Guido Tognoni (FIFA media director).

KEIR RADNEDGE: ***WORLD SOCCER has long believed that introducing three points for a win in the first round of the World Cup finals is essential to change defensive attitudes among national coaches. Is this on the cards for US 94?***

SEPP BLATTER: Yes, I can tell you that three points for a win is being actively considered for the 1994 World Cup finals. It would be comparatively easy to implement since it does not involve a change in the laws of the game, merely an alteration to tournament regulations. It has been received very positively in England and other countries and it is possible we may experiment with it at the World Junior Cup in Japan later this year.

I have already convinced one of our executive committee members. I pointed out to him that his country, Hungary, missed a place in the second round in the 1986 finals in Mexico because they had the same number of points as Uruguay — two. Uruguay had a better goal difference from two draws although Hungary had won a game. If three points for a win had applied, then Hungary would have qualified for the second round, not Uruguay. Now that member also is convinced!

As for the fans, I can tell you that we will NOT put fences in front of the spectators and we expect that people will behave like human beings. They behave like animals only if you treat them like animals.

KR: ***Improving refereeing is a personal campaign for you. What progress is being made towards refining refereeing systems and standards?***

SB: FIFA is to help referees in various ways. First we have to deal with their organisation. In several countries the referees' organisation is not a part of the national federation. This is not correct. Referees are an integral part of the game and must be represented among the executive membership of every association. Then, for too many years we have used referees, wrongly, as linesmen in our major tournaments. We must have specifically appointed linesmen in international competitions.

Now, the referee also has too many tasks. He runs between 10 and 15 kilometres a game. The maximum a linesman runs is two kilometres. So we have a group studying ways in which the linesmen can relieve the referee of some of his duties, not responsibilities. We don't yet have a conclusion or recommendations. But various ideas are being considered.

For example, in Italy they experimented recently with the linesman going on to the pitch at a corner to watch what is happening off the ball so the referee can concentrate on the direct play.

Another idea: the linesman could be in charge of the timekeeping. Why should the referee always be the one having to check his watch?

Yet another point: by 1994 we will have lowered the international age limit to 45. Referees aged 50 just can't follow the game as well as younger men.

In the last 20 years football has developed. It has become more athletic and physical, and referees have to keep up with that. What we want is to encourage referees, like players, to practise their skills and carry out their responsibilities to the best of their abilities. To do that, they need more time for their physical and mental preparation and more time, also, for recuperation. Look at the demands on a top referee.

He has a minimum four games in a month for his national association; then he has perhaps two international-level matches in midweek plus all the travelling. If you take into account the proper time a referee needs for recuperation you are talking about 24 days a month. And he has a daily job. How can he do it? He has neither the time to be a good referee nor the time to be successful at his job.

This is why we need professional referees, and various national associations have asked us to prepare models to show how professional refereeing could be organised. Then, when we have systems established, referees will have more time to concentrate on fitness and coaching. Hopefully the first results of our studies will be presented to the executive committee in Zurich in June.

KR: ***The International Olympic Committee wants to scrap all restrictions on the Olympic Games football tournament. It wants a World Cup, in effect, every two years. What is the latest stage of negotiations for Atlanta '96?***

SB: Certainly the IOC was not happy with the under-23 age limit at Barcelona last year. The IOC wants to have football's "Dream Teams", with all the top professionals and it asked FIFA to study the possibility of opening the Games to older players. We said we would have a look at that but, at the same time, we asked about the prospects of women's football being admitted to the Games in Atlanta.

A proposal will go before our next Congress that we should allow the 16 Olympic Games finalists to include three over-age players in their squads. But we believe the concept of an under- 23 limit is good because it has encouraged many nations to improve the organisation of their youth football.

KR: ***So FIFA will allow over-age players if the IOC allows women's football in Atlanta?***

SB: Nothing has been decided . . . yet.

KR: ***Let's consider the situation regarding the FIFA executive committee. Two members have died, president Havelange has been ill, the Soviet Union — which had a guaranteed place — no longer exists. What is the present situation among the FIFA leadership?***

SB: The members who died have been replaced on the committee. As for president Havelange, he has said he will stand for re-election next year.

The situation regarding the Soviet Union is wide open. That place on the executive was created specifically for the Soviet Union (on its integration into FIFA immediately after the World War Two). Now the Soviet Union no longer exists. Europe wants to keep the place for itself. But the non-Europeans are opposed. I don't know what will occur.

KR: ***It's been reported you want to keep on changing the laws of the game. Is this correct?***

SB: No, we don't like changing the laws so often but the game must adapt to today's football. The last change, penalising the goalkeeper who handles a backpass, was experimented at the World Junior Cup two years ago.

The next possible change will be seen at the World Junior Cup in Japan. This will be using a kick-in, instead of a throw-in. This is what used to happen, after all. Then the throw-in was introduced to punish the team who kicked the ball out. They had to throw

it back. Later it was changed to give the opposing team possession of the throw-in. But our game is football, so why throw the ball back with the hands? The kick-in will help create more excitement in the penalty box.

KR: Various countries have different disciplinary interpretations regarding yellow cards. Can FIFA impose a uniform system of punishment?

SB: I've been told, for example, of the situation in Portugal where it doesn't matter how many yellow cards a player is shown in successive matches. They never add up to suspension. Also, although a player is sent off if he is shown two yellow cards in a game he is NOT suspended for the next match.

In these cirumstances yellow cards have little or no meaning. I have also been told that in Portugal players sent off in a league game are allowed to serve their suspensions over reserve matches. This cannot be allowed to continue any longer than is necessary. Perhaps Congress will ensure that any player sent off, for any reason, shall serve a suspension of at least one match in that same competition.

KR: UEFA recently withdrew Portugal's right to host the 1994 European Under-18 championship because, when the organising committee held its first meeting in Geneva, nobody from Portugal attended. Is there any way FIFA can intervene regarding the political problems within Portuguese football?

SB: It's a pity. All we can do is try to convince the Portuguese Federation that they must appoint a general secretary who can take proper responsibility for the game's organisation and administration.

KR: You have expressed your concern about the situation in Italy, where so many valuable players are in the stands instead of on the pitch. Do you have a solution?

SB: I don't believe in forcing a solution on Italy but these players MUST play. The situation has to be viewed philosophically and financially. First, the situation is not moral. Secondly, the players who sit in the stands are highly paid, yet most of the clubs are in debt.

We have set up a working group which will study three problems of particular concern. The subject of "overflow" players in Italy is one such item; the size of the debts of our clubs is another; and the third issue is co-ordination of the international calendar.

The calendar is a matter of concern to everyone. Many African players are flying to and from Europe throughout this season to play World Cup qualifiers. That creates problems for the players, for the countries and for the players' clubs.

FIFA Footballer of the Year Marco Van Basten talking to Eusebio.

Big winner Marco is still resting

MARCO Van Basten does not believe he will be fit to lead Milan on their imminent return to Champions League action against FC Porto on March 3.

After receiving the Golden Ball as FIFA's Footballer of the Year, Van Basten said: "The ankle on which they operated is improving steadily. But I think it will certainly be more than a month before you see me back in action for my club or country."

Van Basten won the Golden Ball by a landslide vote taken by FIFA among 70 national team managers. He polled 161 votes, almost double the total (88) of runner-up Hristo Stoichkov. The Bulgarian was the one notable absentee from a star-studded cast in Estoril. He was not sulking, merely unavoidably detained because of Barcelona's midweek involvement in the Spanish Cup.

Stoichkov's award was received on his behalf by Ladislav Kubala, the former Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Spain international — and, for many observers in the know, a far greater footballer in his day than Stoichkov, anyway.

Kubala is now retained as diplomatic representative for Barcelona.

Thomas Hassler was third with 61 votes while the top Englishman was Gary Lineker, placed joint 24th.

The voting among the national managers makes fascinating reading, providing an insight into how perception of the significance of events and personalities within the international game varies from country to country, continent to continent.

Also, clearly, a little confusion still exists regarding the award — the national managers of Gambia and Papua New Guinea keeping their voting strictly domestic (see full list).

Intriguingly, Van Basten's old Milan boss, Arrigo Sacchi, did not vote for him. Sacchi did choose a Milan player but that happened to be Paolo Maldini.

Van Basten skated over that. He was more concerned about the challenges which lie ahead, saying: "I always want to win everything. What that means now, with Milan, is the Champions' Cup and the Italian Championship, then the Italian Cup. After that, we'll see. Milan have offered me a new three-year contract which I think I will sign so at the end of that I will have been there nine years. And they have been very good years so far."

Van Basten denied any problems over the attacking rivalry of Jean-Pierre Papin. He said: "Milan are going well, winning almost all our matches. Each player does his very best. The proof is in the results. We have no problems. Any problems are for the club to deal with."

And their forthcoming opponents, of course.

WORLD PLAYER 1992
How The Votes Went

	Player	Country	Total	1st	2nd	3rd
1	Marco VAN BASTEN	(Holland)	161	22	12	15
2	Hristo STOICHKOV	(Bulgaria)	88	9	12	7
3	Thomas HASSLER	(Germany)	61	7	8	2
4	Jean-Pierre PAPIN	(France)	46	5	6	3
5	Brian LAUDRUP	(Denmark)	44	5	4	7
5	Peter SCHMEICHEL	(Denmark)	44	5	5	4
7	Dennis BERGKAMP	(Holland)	29	2	4	7
8	Frank RIJKAARD	(Holland)	23	2	3	4
9	Abedi PELE	(Ghana)	10	2	0	0
9	Franco BARESI	(Italy)	10	1	1	2
9	Jurgen KLINSMANN	(Germany)	10	2	0	0
12	Ronald KOEMAN	(Holland)	7	0	2	1
13	Gabriel BATISTUTA	(Argentina)	6	1	0	1
13	Paulo FUTRE	(Portugal)	6	0	2	0
15	J. Oliveira BEBETO	(Brazil)	5	0	1	2
15	Ruud GULLIT	(Holland)	5	1	0	0
15	Alieu JARJUE	(Gambia)	5	1	0	0
15	Karl-Heinz RIEDLE	(Germany)	5	1	0	0
15	Dejan SAVICEVIC	(Yugoslavia)	5	1	0	0
15	Desmond WAKY	(Papua NG)	5	1	0	0
15	George WEAH	(Liberia)	5	0	1	2
15	Jose ZALAZAR	(Uruguay)	5	1	0	0
15	Andoni ZUBIZARRETA	(Spain)	5	1	0	0
24	Gary LINEKER	(England)	4	0	1	1
24	Rudi VOLLER	(Germany)	4	0	1	1
26	Dennis ABEGO	(Papua NG)	3	0	1	0
26	Claudio CANIGGIA	(Argentina)	3	0	1	0
26	Paolo MALDINI	(Italy)	3	0	1	0
26	Robert PROSINECKI	(Yugoslavia)	3	0	1	0
26	Fernando REDONDO	(Argentina)	3	0	1	0
26	Jaisuma SISSAY	(Gambia)	3	0	1	0
26	Ivan ZAMORANO	(Chile)	3	0	1	0
33	Roberto BAGGIO	(Italy)	2	0	0	2
33	Gianluigi LENTINI	(Italy)	2	0	0	2
33	J.G. Martin MICHEL	(Spain)	2	0	0	2
33	Gianluca VIALLI	(Italy)	2	0	0	2
37	Carlos AGUILERA	(Uruguay)	1	0	0	1
37	Tomas BROLIN	(Sweden)	1	0	0	1
37	Igor DOBROVOLSKI	(CIS)	1	0	0	1
37	Thomas DOLL	(Germany)	1	0	0	1
37	Jan ERIKSSON	(Sweden)	1	0	0	1
37	Alfred GABONG	(Papua NG)	1	0	0	1
37	Paul GASCOIGNE	(England)	1	0	0	1
37	Peter GASSAMA	(Gambia)	1	0	0	1
37	Rafael MARTIN VASQUEZ	(Spain)	1	0	0	1
37	Gheorge POPESCU	(Romania)	1	0	0	1
37	Flemming POVLSEN	(Denmark)	1	0	0	1
37	V. Oliveira RAI	(Brazil)	1	0	0	1
37	ROMARIO S. Faria	(Brazil)	1	0	0	1

2nd ..... Stoichkov.

5th ..... Schmeichel.

9th ..... Klinsmann.

NOTE: *For a first position vote, each player got five points; three points for a second position vote; finally, one point for a third position vote.*

WORLD PLAYER 1992
How The National Coaches Voted

Country	National team Coach	First	Second	Third
Antigua	(Micha Samuel)	Van Basten	Papin	Lentini
Argentina	(Alfio Basile)	Batistuta	Redondo	Van Basten
Australia	(Eddie Thomson)	Stoichkov	Van Basten	Gascoigne
Austria	(Ernst Happel)	Van Basten	Stoichkov	Romario
Bangladesh	(Md. Kaikobad)	Papin	Stoichkov	Van Basten
Belgium	(Paul van Himst)	Van Basten	Laudrup	Stoichkov
Benin	(Peter Schnittger)	Van Basten	Hassler	Weah
Brazil	(Carlos A. Parreira)	Rijkaard	Van Basten	Laudrup
Bulgaria	(Dimitar Penev)	Stoichkov	Van Basten	Hassler
Byelorussia	(Mikhail Vergeenko)	Laudrup	Stoichkov	Bergkamp
Canada	(Bob Lenarduzzi)	Hassler	Schmeichel	R. Koeman
Chile	(Arturo Salah C.)	Stoichkov	Zamorano	Van Basten
China	(Klaus Schlappner)	Riedle	Papin	Vialli
Croatia	(Martin Novoselac)	Van Basten	Hassler	Laudrup
CSFR	(Milan Macala)	Hassler	Van Basten	Baresi
Cyprus	(Andreas Michaelides)	Van Basten	Schmeichel	Stoichkov
Denmark	(Richard Moller Nielsen)	Papin	Hassler	Stoichkov
Dominican Republic	(Fr. Ramirez/M. Horner)	Van Basten	Hassler	Papin
England	(Graham Taylor)	Bergkamp	Laudrup	Stoichkov
Estonia	(Lino Piir)	Schmeichel	Hassler	Laudrup
Equatorial Guinea	(Pedro-Mabale Fuga)	Abedi Pele	Stoichkov	Vazquez
Faroe Islands	(Pall E. Gudlaugsson)	Schmeichel	Lineker	Brolin
Finland	(Jukka Vakkila)	Hassler	Bergkamp	Schmeichel
France	(Gerard Houllier)	Stoichkov	Van Basten	Rai
Gambia	(Ebrima A. Bajong)	Jarjue	Sissay	Gassama
Georgia	(Anatoli Norakiza)	Van Basten	Hassler	Lentini
Germany	(Berti Vogts)	Hassler	Voller	Van Basten
Ghana	(Otto Pfister)	Abedi Pele	Bergkamp	Schmeichel
Greece	(Alketas Panagoulias)	Van Basten	Futre	Baggio
Guinea	(Serge Deveze)	Van Basten	Stoichkov	Laudrup
Guinea-Bissau	(Armando Antoni Miranda)	Van Basten	Stoichkov	Bergkamp
Holland	(Dick Advocaat)	Van Vasten	R. Koeman	Stoichkov
Hungary	(Imre Jenei)	Van Basten	Hassler	Stoichkov
Rep. of Ireland	(Jack Charlton)	Laudrup	Schmeichel	Rijkaard
Israel	(Shlomo Scharf)	Papin	Bergkamp	Stoichkov
Italy	(Arrigo Sacchi)	Stoichkov	Maldini	Bergkamp
Japan	(Marius Johan Ooft)	Rijkaard	Schmeichel	Bergkamp
Jordan	(Neef Matous Abdelgader)	Hassler	Rijkaard	Papin
Korea Republic	(Ho Kim)	Klinsmann	Papin	Lineker
Kuwait	(Valmir Louruz)	Van Basten	Rijkaard	Bebeto
Latvia	(Janis Gillis)	Papin	Schmeichel	Bergkamp
Lithuania	(A. Liubinskas)	Schmeichel	Van Basten	Hassler
Luxembourg	(Paul Philipp)	Stoichkov	Van Basten	Bergkamp
Malaysia	(Kenneth Joseph Worden)	Savicevic	Prosinecki	Dobrovolski
Maldives	(Miklos Tomosvari)	Laudrup	R. Koeman	Papin
Mauritius	(Mukesh Ramrhaka)	Stoichkov	Van Basten	Bebeto
New Zealand	(Ian Marshall)	Van Basten	Baresi	Doll
Norway	(Egil Olsen)	Schmeichel	Bergkamp	Laudrup
Pakistan	(Mohammad Aslam)	Klinsmann	Caniggia	Van Basten
Papua New Guinea	(Ludwig W. Peka)	Waku	Agebo	Gabong
Paraguay	(Sergio Markarian)	Van Basten	Stoichkov	Aguilera
Peru	(Vladimir Popovic)	Van Basten	Papin	Rijkaard
Poland	(Andrzej Strejlau)	Hassler	Stoichkov	Batistuta
Portugal	(Carlos Queiroz)	Bergkamp	Futre	Weah
Puerto Rico	(Oscar Rosa Lugardo)	Gullit	Bebeto	Michel
Romania	(Cornel Dinu)	Laudrup	Stoichkov	Popescu
Scotland	(Andy Roxburgh)	Van Basten	Papin	Schmeichel
Singapore	(N. N. Sivati)	Schmeichel	Papin	Voller
Slovenia	(Bojan Prasnikar)	Van Basten	Stoichkov	Povlsen
Spain	(Vicente Miera Campos)	Zubizarreta	Stoichkov	Michel
Sweden	(Tommy Svensson)	Laudrup	Hassler	Eriksson
Switzerland	(Roy Hodgson)	Baresi	Van Basten	Laudrup
Taiwan	(Jonbg Chien Wu)	Papin	Van Basten	Vialli
Tunisia	(Hrad Mnahjoub)	Stoichkov	Weah	Bergkamp
Turkey	(Sepp Piontek)	Van Basten	Laudrup	Schmeichel
Uruguay	(Luis A. Cubilla)	Zalazar	Van Basten	Rijkaard
USA	(Bora Milutinovic)	Van Basten	Stoichkov	Baresi
Venezuela	(Ratomir Djukovic)	Stoichkov	Van Basten	Baggio
Vietnam	(Tran Binh Su)	Hassler	Laudrup	Rijkaard
Wales	(Terry Yorath)	Van Basten	Rijkaard	Laudrup

THE KEIR RADNEDGE
COMMENTARY FROM LISBON

Sousa caught in a storm

SOUSA Cintra, president of Sporting Clube do Portugal, did not attend the World Football Gala in the best of moods.

The mineral water millionaire had just endured a nightmare week. He had to be persuaded that non-attendance would hurt only himself and the green-and-white colours of which he is so proud.

Seven days earlier Sporting had, unwittingly, handed neighbours Benfica the opportunity to snatch homeward-bound Paulo Futre from their grasp.

Then the players had blown their chance to provide some consolation when Salgueiros went to the Jose Alvalade stadium, defended grimly for 88 minutes and snatched the decisive, single goal of the game in a last-gasp breakaway.

Defeat was all the more mortifying because Sousa Cintra had just hosted lunch for a string of guests, including master coaches Rinus Michels and Tele Santana.

Memories of a defeat, of course, can quickly be erased. But bitter memories of the the Futre affair will long haunt Sporting and Sousa Cintra.

Futre, Portugal's outstanding footballer of his generation, was discovered and raised, in football terms, by Sporting. At 16 he was considered such a major talent that Portugal's youth and senior managers squabbled over which national selection should benefit from his gifts.

Sporting, beset by one of the many political crises which distracted the club in the 1980s, committed their first mistake by refusing the fledgling Futre's demand for a modest pay increase. Porto set up a secret meeting, agreed terms and snatched him away.

Two years later Futre inspired Porto to victory in the 1987 Champions' Cup Final (2-1 v Bayern Munich in Vienna) and thus earned a £1million move to Spain's Atletico Madrid.

Futre was a trump card in the hand of controversial Jesus Gil, chasing the votes which would turn him into Atletico president. Gil rallied support by promising to bring in Futre and Argentine coach Cesar Luis Menotti. Of course, he won by a landslide. Futre and Menotti did not see eye to eye. But Futre was always Gil's favourite — a pampered, adopted son — and Menotti was just the first of 13 coaches dismissed in five years.

Finally, along came veteran trainer Luis Aragones to break with modern tradition and launch a blistering attack on Futre's lack of effort after Atletico were held 2-2 by Real in the Madrid derby.

When Futre joined Portugal's national squad in ritiro the following weekend for the World Cup tie against Malta, he told friends and reporters: "I've had enough. I want to go. There isn't enough money to persuade me to go back to Atletico. I would rather sit at home in Portugal and wait until my contract runs out, if that's what it takes."

Training . . . Futre with Benfica.

Tackling . . . Milovac of Salgueiros challenges Sporting's Peixe.

Sporting were thrilled. For four years they had "nursed" Futre in exile, awaiting just such an outcome. Sousa Cintra said so, offered Atletico £4million and began planning the triumphant press conference.

That's where Benfica stepped in. Alerted by their rivals' over-confidence, they agreed personal terms with Futre, agreed a similar free with Atletico AND provided the financial guarantees which Sporting had yet to offer.

After a three-hour board meeting Gil declared: "my saddest day as president" . . . and announced that Futre was joining Benfica.

Sporting were furious. They accused Benfica of "treachery". Bitterly, Sousa Cintra told friends: "I must be Benfica's best recruiting agent. This isn't the first time they've done this to me."

Benfica's Snatch of the Year was further complicated by a political element over the financial role played in the affair by *RTP*, the state TV corporation. It soon emerged that Benfica's financial guarantee to Atletico was based on a new TV deal concluded with *RTP* and conditional on Futre's return.

The fact that a key figure at *RTP* was formerly a member of Benfica's finance commission added fuel to a fire which the government sought to quell by dismissing *RTP's* entire board of directors.

Meanwhile, Sporting's players should have been able to provide their fans with some sort of consolation the next Sunday, against mid-table Salgueiros. After all, Sporting's form and confidence had steadily improved in the months since a disastrous first-round UEFA Cup knock-out by Grasshopper of Zurich.

Poland's Olympic hero, Andrzej Juskowiak, was still not fit. But Krasimir Balakov and Jorge Cadete, with 10 and nine goals respectively, were the league's top scorers.

Salgueiros would surely pay for the Futre transfer disaster. But they did not. Sporting, renowned for their hospitality, proved generous to a fault. They had plenty of possession but could not turn it into goals.

Only former world youth cup-winner, Luis Figo, found anything like his true form on the right in midfield. With two minutes to go, Salgueiros broke away. Sao Pinto, their nimble midfielder and man of the match, arrowed through Sporting's over-extended defence, skipped around onrushing goalkeeper Tomislav Ivkovic and shot.

Defenders Peixe and Nelson should have cleared Pinto's gentle effort. But either they misjudged its direction or they left it for each other. The ball rolled slowly over the goal-line.

Not even the ensuing expulsion of two Salgueiros players for second yellow card offences and the addition, by the referee, of five minutes overtime, could save Sporting and coach Bobby Robson from the whistles engendered by defeat.

At lunch before the ill-starred game, Sousa Cintra had told Santana, Michels and Co: "We will always be happy to welcome you to our club."

No doubt he hopes next time will be a rather happier occasion when, perhaps, Sporting's new trophy museum can provide pride of place to that long-lost league championship trophy.

Quite a contract

BENFICA agreed to a unique series of demands from Atletico Madrid to secure Paulo Futre's transfer. Atletico were driven, in negotiations, by the fear of president Jesus Gil that he was being set up; that Futre's ambition was a transfer to . . . neighbours Real Madrid.

This would not have been the first time Madrid used a "third party club" to circumvent Gil's refusal to consider selling.

Back in 1985 Atletico sold marksman Hugo Sanchez back home to America of Mexico City only for America to re-sell him immediately to Real.

To prevent any repeats, Benfica have agreed to pay Atletico . . .

£ an extra £2million if they re-sell Futre to Italy at the end of this season;

£ an extra £3million if they re-sell him to any Spanish club (excluding Real Madrid); and

£ an extra £4million if they re-sell Futre to Real Madrid.

No wonder Real president Ramon Mendoza, asked if he were interested in Futre, said: "At first, yes. Now I've read about the contract, No!"

A lovely war for Robson

BOBBY ROBSON is fit and well and — occasional setbacks notwithstanding (Futre, Salgueiros) — enjoying just about every minute of life with the Lions of Lisbon.

Portuguese fans and media can be pretty hostile at times. But the only sun which pursues Robson is the real thing. He has warmed to the life and the challenge just as the climate is suiting him.

It demands no special insight to understand the attraction of the latest challenge in a managerial career which has swept Robson from Fulham to Vancouver, to Ipswich, to England and to Holland with PSV Eindhoven.

He is a football man in an avowedly football country. Robson says: "They are so passionate about the game here. You can hardly believe it. For instance, there were 10,000 people at the Benfica stadium, just for training on Futre's first day.

"To see him *train*. On a *workday* afternoon. Can you believe that? Where can you find another country to match that? In England we pride ourselves on our sport. But in England there's lots of sports. Here, in Portugal, it's just football . . . football . . . football."

Robson thumped a fist into the other palm to emphasise each repeated "football." Clearly, he loves working in a country where he is a personality both as coach to Sporting, one of the greatest clubs in Portugal, and in his own right.

At the reception before the World Football Gala in Estoril he was constantly being sought out for introductions by players, coaches and directors. Germany manager Berti Vogts and skipper Lothar Matthaus made Robson their first point of call on arrival. Holland's Rinus Michels paid respects to an old rival. All around hovered the superstar names — Van Basten, Hassler, Eusebio, Lothar Matthaus, Rinus Michels, Tele Santana, Ladislav Kubala.

Not all of them, please note, have reached the semi-finals of the World Cup. Robson had every right to look, and feel, at home. Not that working in Portugal is easy.

Rebuilding Sporting, who have not won the league title for a decade, is, in its way, as pressured a task as maintaining the record of success which Robson found when he took over PSV after England's 1990 World Cup campaign.

Robson says: "The one difference is that at PSV there was a squad of experienced, high-class international players whereas at Sporting I'm starting from scratch. It's almost like being back at Ipswich. We've got some terrific young players: like Figo. He's only 19 but he is a marvellous player — skilful, strong, intelligent. The rest are learning but we're two years away from their being a championship side.

"The measure of our progess at the end of the season will be the distance we are from the top. Last season Porto were 12 points ahead. But it won't be that way this time."

But it's not so much the rivalry with Porto which consumes Sporting's fans as the Lisbon duel with the Eagles of Benfica, just down the road in their Estadio da Luz.

The significance of the duel cannot be overstated. Earlier this season Robson scored the first major triumph of his career in Lisbon when Sporting beat Benfica in the league. Benfica reacted to their first defeat of the season by dismissing their coach, Tomislav Ivic.

Robson says: "It's like war between the clubs. When Benfica bought Futre our president severed diplomatic links between the clubs. That's how he put it. Just like international diplomacy.

"So, when my assistant Manuel Fernandes and I wanted to go and see Benfica play Porto a day or two later in a Cup replay we had to buy our own tickets.

We had to pay about 3,000 Escudos each (£15). Our president wouldn't hear of us going as guests in the Benfica directors' box there, in the normal way. He wasn't very happy about us going there at all!

"You can't imagine that in England. It's much more intense, for example, than Arsenal v Tottenham. If George Graham beat Terry Venables to sign a player, Terry might have a few choice words and then carry on. But Arsenal v Tottenham is just rivalry. Here, as I say, it's war. Oh yes, football here is different all right."

For one thing, referees scatter yellow cards around them like confetti. But, since there is no effective totting-up disciplinary system, yellow cards mean next to nothing.

The fact that two Salgueiros players received red cards for two yellow-card offences in the dying seconds against Sporting, on the Gala weekend, rated barely a note in Monday's newspapers.

In England, of course, such disciplinary drama would overshadow the result of the match. Then again, how many managers in England must coach players speaking a mixture of five languages?

Robson is making steady progress picking up Portuguese, which serves as a type of Esperanto to bind, linguistically, a squad who include one Yugoslav, one Pole, one Ukrainian, two Bulgarians, a Dutchman and a smattering of Portuguese.

Robson says: "I've got enough Portuguese for the training ground. It's coming along steadily."

And with that, as if to prove the point, he was swallowed up by another crowd of friends old and new. Bobby Robson is having a lovely war.

Tangling . . . Sporting's Cadete up against FC Porto's defence.

Going up . . .

THE price of your favourite international soccer magazine has gone up — to £1.60. The move was inevitable, I'm afraid, given the steadily increasing production costs which we have absorbed for as long as we could.

We believe, however, that the extra 10p is a small price to pay while we strive to maintain the unrivalled service for which *WORLD SOCCER* has developed an appropriately worldwide reputation. Keep ahead of the international game with *WORLD SOCCER* — take note that the April issue will be in the shops on March 19.

PADRE PIO'S LEFT FOOT

GIUSEPPE
SIGNORI

That's the new name for the top scorer

GIUSEPPE SIGNORI, leading goalscorer in the Italian League and undoubtedly the brightest surprise of the season so far, has a secret sponsor — Padre Pio, the late Franciscan monk and faith healer, credited with many cures for which there was no obvious medical explanation.

Some while ago, Signori went on a visit to the shrine of Padre Pio at San Giovanni Rotondo in Puglia, near to Foggia where Signori was living and playing at the time.

While at the shrine, a Franciscan monk blessed the soccer shirt he was wearing.

Not long afterwards, Signori was involved in a bad car crash but emerged unharmed from a write-off.

While driving, he had been wearing the same soccer shirt the monk had blessed for him at San Giovanni.

So, Giuseppe Signori or "Padre Pio's Left Foot", as he was recently called by *La Repubblica* newspaper, has sponsors in high places.

That information probably comes as no surprise to the many defenders who have been run dizzy by the bending, twisting, fast Lazio striker in the past two seasons.

No matter about divine assistance and folklore, there is little doubt that 25-year-old Signori, from Bergamo, is the brightest Italian talent to emerge since Roberto Baggio and "Toto" Schillaci briefly persuaded Italy that they might be on the way to a fourth World Cup title during the magic nights of Italia '90.

Indeed, the man who guided Italy in that 1990 home World Cup, coach Azeglio Vicini, probably spoke for many when saying recently: "Not since the time of Paolo Rossi have we seen an Italian striker with his sharpness and goalscoring knack."

Small in stature at five feet and seven inches and wearing a now infamous size 38 boot (an average woman's foot), Signori is the classic little dangerman up front, always buzzing and ever ready to sting a defence with his remarkable ability to twist and weave at full speed, while still controlling the ball.

For those of us in regular attendance at the Olympic Stadium in Rome, Signori has brightened many a Sunday afternoon this season. In particular, goals against Inter and Brescia, when on both occasions he ran players off their feet, seemed like flashbacks to a yesteryear when defences were "softer" and wingers like Matthews and Finney dribbled their way past half a team.

Such thoughts are unlikely to disturb Signori's peace of mind. Not only Padre Pio, but also the bitter fruit of experience remind him that success can be a fleeting notion in soccer.

Signori started his professional career at inter-regional level, with a club called Leffe, and was once rejected by Internazionale.

Nowadays, Signori has a contract with Lazio worth over £1.4 million for four years.

Yet, in his days with Leffe, he earned £285 per month and, on top of that, found himself required to fix the club President's TV and radio.

Improvised repair man or not, Signori stuck to his soccer and gradually worked his way up through all the Italian leagues, playing Third Division soccer with Leffe, Piacenza and Trento before arriving in the Second Division

PRO-FILE

GIUSEPPE SIGNORI

LAZIO AND ITALY

Born: February 17, 1968, in Bergamo.

Previous clubs: Leffe, Piacenza, Trento, Foggia.

International debut: June 4, 1992 v Republic of Ireland, in Foxboro *(US Cup '92)*, won 2-0.

International caps: 2 (1 goal).

with Piacenza during the 1988-89 season.

One year later, Signori made the best move of his career, accepting a transfer to Second Division Foggia, then and now coached by the enigmatic Czech, Zdenek Zeman, a one time political refugee who fled his native Prague when the Russian tanks rolled in back in 1968.

Zeman has a reputation for being the coach who talks least and who works his players hardest in all Italy.

Francesco Baiano, now with Fiorentina, and Giuseppe Signori both owe their places in the Italian international squad largely to aggressive, non-Italian soccer played by Zeman's Foggia, a soccer pleasing to current Italian coach Arrigo Sacchi and a soccer that won Foggia promotion to and survival in the First Divison.

Having starred with Foggia in their first year in the top division last season, Signori's big breaks came last summer when he not only moved to Lazio (for £3.9 million) but when he also made his international debut, against the Republic of Ireland, during the US '92 Cup friendly tournament.

True to his reputation, he got on the goal sheet too, scoring with a free kick in Italy's 2-0 win.

During a conversation with Irish manager Jack Charlton in Sweden last summer, re the future of England's Paul Gascoigne at Lazio, Jack asked me about the Lazio team and with whom precisely would Gascoigne be playing.

When I mentioned Signori as one of Gascoigne's new team mates, Jack nodded approvingly and suggested that "he" (Signori) "might do".

Now, 17 goals later, and with Lazio in third place in the table, the Lazio fans agree. Signori will "do" fine.

Signori's good form this season has, of course, led to his confirmation in the national team, with coach Sacchi surprising many by preferring him to Gianluca Vialli for Italy's 0-0 World Cup draw with Scotland in Glasgow in November. An unconvincing Italy, however, hardly gave Signori much chance to shine that night.

There doubtless will be other better opportunities to see Signori do his stuff for Italy.

In the meantime, the hottest property in Italian soccer already has original plans for his future: "If, when I get to 30, I don't have the same pace and precision that I now have, then I'll stop being a professional footballer and go back home to Villa di Serio and play with friends.

"I would like fans to remember me when I was at my best."

PADDY **AGNEW**

Bruno's revolution

He could be the first Italian to move to England

THE Corso Fiume, running through the heart of Turin, is a wide road which is theatre for the disorder of rush hour.

It is named after the Adriatic city of Fiume, which adventurer D'Annunzio seized and claimed for the Italian kingdom in 1919.

The fog drifts across the city from the River Po as men and women make their way to work. It looks cold from the comfort of a small coffee bar at one side of the Corso.

Torino's Pasquale Bruno is five minutes late, but arrives with the three daily sports papers tucked under an arm, and a grin on his face. He is on the front page of two of them.

Not only has he incurred the wrath of one of the papers by daring to comment that he could not care less about the rating he had been given for the game 48 hours previously (We've given you four out of ten, what do you think about that?" "The only four I am interested in is four billion lira in the bank, what do you think about that?") but he also has been contacted by Peter Reid, who wanted to talk about a move to Manchester City.

Player-manager Reid had an opportunity to assess uncompromising stopper Bruno in a pre-season friendly between the clubs.

Bruno was completely taken with the English style of play. With his palms turned upwards in a gesture of confused admiration he reflects: "I was tussling with Niall Quinn for the whole game and playing very hard but when the game was over he approached me and shook my hand. I like that.

"The players in England tend to be more honest and that means they don't dive to get free-kicks." Perhaps.

Bruno's career is littered with incidents. From four years with him home-town team, Lecce, in Serie B, to Como ("I had the greatest time") and promotion to Serie A in the first season, his reputation was built on an ability to frustrate forwards.

He soon caught the eye of several top clubs and was transferred to Juventus. During his first spell at the Stadio Delle Alpi he came into contact with Ian Rush.

"I learned a lot about English football from talking to him," he says. "If I play in England I would like to play in the North, in Manchester or Liverpool or Leeds, because he is a great friend of mine. We still keep in touch and he can help me to settle in."

Bruno might need help. As the Football Association can confirm, there is no precedent for such a transfer. An Italian has never left Serie A to join a professional English club. Bruno is a D'Annunzio for the 90s, a late 20th-century adventurer and a romantic.

He says: "England gave football to the World. It is really the home of football. Teams like Liverpool and Arsenal are world famous and have fantastic fans.

"But I do not understand the idea of the long ball. Some defenders in England just seem to kick the ball into the air every time they receive it. In Italy a player likes time and prefers to bring the ball out and pass it."

Bruno may discover that a majority of English coaches do not share the same enthusiasm for the technical approach.

Other players are said to be interested in reversing the one-way traffic from Britain to Italy, notably Aldo Serena of Milan.

Bruno has personal reasons for pursuing this course of action. "Of course I want to play in England, but I have plans for an import-export business operating between England and Italy. I want to learn to speak English and I also want my children to learn."

He is planning for the future. Whether he proves to be a catalyst for Anglo-Italian transfers remains to be seen.

Bruno is hard and not given to histrionics. Physically, he bears an uncanny resemblance to Wimbledon's most famous son, Vinny Jones, but he has an innate technical ability which sets him in a different constellation.

Unfortunately he has been in more trouble, with the Italian Federation now checking on alleged threats he made to Brescia striker Florin Raducioiu before a match in which the Romanian was carried off.

Bruno, who had been banned for eight matches last season after being sent off, "did a Gascoigne" by upsetting people when he appeared on TV after the latest incident.

"Raducioiu was right — I had a rifle and a pistol in my pocket," he said sarcastically.

After a couple of cups of coffee, Bruno settles the bill. Another Torino defender, Enrico Annoni, drops by for breakfast. The two exchange a warm greeting. Bruno is as charming as he is ferociously ambitious.

His contract with Torino comes up for renewal in July. Napoli and Lazio are said to be interested in him . . . but Bruno has hired an English tutor.

Watch out, England. The Italians may be coming.

BILL **BORROWS**

PRO-FILE

PASQUALE BRUNO

TORINO

Born: June 19, 1962, in Lecce.

Previous clubs: Lecce, Como, Juventus.

HONOURS

UEFA Cup: 1990.
Italian Cup: 1990.
Italian Olympic squad: 1988.

TOO MANY FOREIGNERS

Clubs are not playing fair

WHEN Internazionale's German midfielder Matthias Sammer packed his bags in late January and headed home to join Borussia Dortmund, his departure from Italian soccer doubtless set in motion a veritable tide of "I-Told-You-So".

Sammer, after all, had joined Inter from Stuttgart only last summer for a fee just under £3.5 million.

From the moment last spring that the Italian Federation agreed to allow clubs to sign as many foreigners as they wished but field only three in any League or Cup game, any child over the age of three months could have told you that trouble lay ahead.

Most of us thought that the first side to fall foul of the over-abundance problem would be Milan, no less.

After all, for reasons not entirely under their control (Montenegrin Dejan Savicevic joined them a year earlier than intended while the Croat Zvonimir Boban refused to leave) Milan now have six foreigners — Jean-Pierre Papin, Ruud Gullit, Frank Rijkaard and Marco Van Basten are the others.

Yet it was Milan's city rivals, Inter, who came a cropper over Sammer.

In the end, Sammer left Inter for the good and obvious reason that he could not command a first-team place. Humiliatingly he was kept out of the side not by Inter's three other foreigners (Uruguyan Ruben Sosa, Russian Igor Shalimov and Macedonian Darko Pancev) but by a little known Italian called Antonio Manicone, signed from Udinese last November during that short period when the Italian transfer market is reopened.

Sammer's departure from Inter turns an unflattering spotlight on the often cavalier manner in which Italian clubs sign "big name" foreign players, about whom little more than the name is known. German captain and former Inter player Lothar Matthaus, who also left the club this summer to return to Bayern Munich after four seasons in Italy, did not mince words.

"Selling Sammer to Borussia Dortmund is the final act in an ongoing confusion at Inter, especially with reference to the foreigners," said Matthaus.

"Sammer was bought to replace me but everyone, except Inter obviously, knows that Sammer is an entirely different type of player.

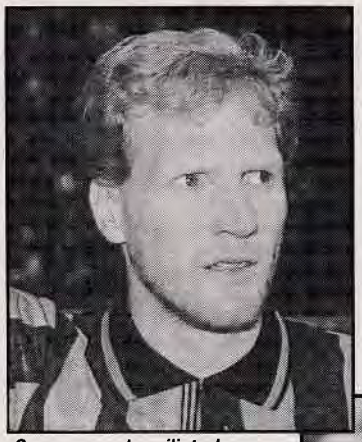
"He is definitely neither a central nor a defensive midfielder, rather he is a much more attacking player than me who does best on the flanks, either left or right.

"Inter took an option on Sammer in 1991 and he accepted because he was told that all of us (Matthaus, Brehme, Klinsmann) would be remaining with the club.

"In the end, though, he found himself alone at Inter with no compatriot to help him in the difficult business of adapting to Italian soccer.

"Inter have lost a very good player — better for Sammer, better for Dortmund and above all better for the German national team. You'll see, now that he's got away from Milan, he'll prove himself a great player."

Matthaus even went on to suggest that Inter might resolve their problems by getting rid of a few of their old Italian guard, rather than always making a scapegoat out of whichever foreigner happens to be handy.



Sammer . . . humiliated.

Zenga, Ferri, Bergomi etc, you have been warned.

Even allowing for the obvious consideration that Matthaus is, in no sense, an impartial witness, he has a point. Italian clubs do not always fully evaluate the precise technical characteristics of foreigners before purchase, while the foreigner is often made a scapegoat.

Matthaus and Klinsmann at Inter, Irishman Liam Brady (again at Inter), Germans Thomas Hassler and Stefan Reuter at Juventus, Belgian Enzo Scifo (also while at Inter), Frenchman Laurent Blanc at Napoli, Soviets Sasha Zavarov and Sergei Aleinikov at Juventus are just some illustrious names dumped by their Italian clubs in a "scapegoat" operation that had more to do with poor results and failure to use them properly than with the individual player's alleged failings.

Watching Jurgen Klinsmann knock in 15 goals for Monaco this season, one can only wonder at reports this time last year suggesting he was finished.

Anyone who saw Hassler strut his stuff for Germany during last summer's European Championship, must have wondered about the Juventus decision to let him go after an allegedly "disappointing" season.

We could go on and on.

The point is that Italian clubs, especially now that millions of pounds worth of talent is left in the grandstand every Sunday, are not playing fair with foreigners.

FIFA secretary general Sepp Blatter has not missed the point. At a Zurich meeting last month, he organised the first get-together of a commission that will discuss the foreign player situation worldwide, but with obvious particular reference to Italy.

Blatter's commission, which will present a report for FIFA's June 2 executive meeting, will be examining the problem from three angles — the under-utilisation of foreigners, the weakening of other clubs deprived of these same foreigners, and the need to co-ordinate international soccer calendars so that national sides are not unduly penalised by a player's club commitments. Plenty to work on there.

In truth, the foreigner's lot in Italian soccer is often a complex one.

PADDY **AGNEW**

RESULTS

SERIE A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	19	15	4	0	44	16	34
Inter	19	10	5	4	34	25	25
Lazio	19	8	7	4	38	27	23
Atalanta	19	10	3	6	24	24	23
Juventus	19	7	7	5	33	25	21
Torino	19	6	9	4	20	14	21
Sampdoria	19	7	7	5	33	28	21
Cagliari	19	7	5	7	17	18	19
AS Roma	19	6	6	7	23	20	18
Parma	19	7	5	7	20	22	18
Udinese	19	7	3	9	27	26	17
Fiorentina	19	5	7	7	31	32	17
Napoli	19	7	3	9	29	30	17
Foggia	19	6	5	8	23	33	17
Brescia	19	5	6	8	18	25	16
Genoa	19	4	8	7	26	38	16
Ancona	19	4	2	13	28	46	10
Pescara	19	3	3	13	25	39	9

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

ANCONA 1 (Vecchiola 48)
UDINESE 0. Att: 9,400.

MILAN 1 (Massaro 21)
BRESCIA 0. Att: 24,000.

CAGLIARI 1 (Cappioli 23)
FOGGIA 1 (Di Biagio 78 pen). Att: 22,000.

GENOA 1 (Skuhravy 75)
ATALANTA 0. Att: 26,000.

INTER 2 (Sosa 60, Berti 69)
PARMA 1 (Melli 22). Att: 50,000.

JUVENTUS 2 (R. Baggio 11, 78)
PESCARA 1 (Ferretti 18). Att: 30,000.

FIORENTINA 0
TORINO 0. Att: 34,000.

NAPOLI 3 (Crippa 29, Fonseca 58, Careca 70)
LAZIO 1 (Signori 78). Att: 55,000.

AS ROMA 0
SAMPDORIA 0. Att: 47,000.

WEEKEND

TORINO 1 (Poggi 67)
ANCONA 0. Att: 12,000.

BRESCIA 2 (Schenardi 55, Raducioiu 69)
NAPOLI 1 (Zola 75). Att: 15,000.

FOGGIA 2 (Bresciani 36, Seno 80)
AC MILAN 2 (Papin 56, Rijkaard 59). Att: 25,000.

GENOA 2 (Skuhravy 53, 75 pen)
FIORENTINA 2 (Baiano 26, Batistuta 42). Att: 30,000.

INTER 2 (Pancev 7, Sosa 38 pen)
UDINESE 2 (Desideri 65, Balbo 84). Att: 28,000.

On the ball . . . Inter against Torino.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

WEEKEND

ATLANTA 2 (Rambaudi 21, Montero 93)
ANCONA 1 (Agostini 73). Att: 20,000.

FOGGIA 1 (Kolyvanov 53)
FIORENTINA 0. Att: 20,000.

UDINESE 1 (Rizzitelli o.g. 25)
AS ROMA 2 (Rizzitelli 19, 32). Att: 16,000.

MILAN 1 (Savicevic 71 pen)
GENOA 0. Att: 74,000.

PARMA 1 (Asprilla 52)
NAPOLI 1 (Fonseca 62). Att: 25,000.

TORINO 1 (Paganin o.g. 66)
INTER 2 (Sosa 59 pen, Fontolan 61). Att: 32,000.

LAZIO 1 (Cravero 42)
JUVENTUS 1 (R. Baggio 14). Att: 65,000.

SAMPDORIA 1 (Corini 45)
BRESCIA 0. Att: 27,000.

PESCARA 0
CAGLIARI 1 (Moriero 76). Att: 14,790.

JUVENTUS 2 (R. Baggio 18, Casiraghi 35)
CAGLIARI 1 (Torricelli 48 o.g.). Att: 30,000.

LAZIO 2 (Riedle 7, Stroppa 87)
SAMPDORIA 1 (Mancini 89). Att: 45,000.

PARMA 0
ATALANTA 0. Att: 24,000.

PESCARA 1 (Allegri 88 pen)
AS ROMA 1 (Carnevale 47). Att: 17,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

MIDWEEK

CUP — QUARTER-FINAL, 1ST LEG

MILAN 0
INTER 0. Att: 64,653.

JUVENTUS 2 (Vialli 32, 39)
PARMA 1 (Brolin 34). Att: 56,360

NAPLES 0
AS ROMA 0. Att: 39,142.

LAZIO 2 (Neri 4, Signori 34)
TORINO 2 (Fusi 47, Scifo 88). Att: 45,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

WEEKEND

ATALANTA 2 (Perrone 38, Ganz 72)
JUVENTUS 1 (Moller 57). Att: 30,000.

NAPLES 2 (Zola 19, Careca 29)
FOGGIA 0. Att: 55,000.

AS ROMA 3 (Carnevale 29, 79, Hassler 2)
GENOA 0. Att: 45,000.

UDINESE 1 (Balbo 61)
PARMA 0. Att: 15,000.

TORINO 1 (Scifo 10 pen)
BRESCIA 0. Att: 20,000.

SAMPDORIA 3 (Jugovic 10, Chiesa 8, Mancini 85)
ANCONA 1 (Vecchiola 9). Att: 27,000.

MILAN 4 (Savicevic 13, Papin 17, 35, Donadoni 90)
PESCARA 0. Att: 68,000.

CAGLIARI 0
INTER 0. Att: 28,000.

LAZIO 2 (Signori 59, Fuser 93)
FIORENTINA 0. Att: 34,500.

American Airlines®

DALLAS CUP® XIV

England's West Ham celebrate success at the American Airlines Dallas Cup XIII.

The Legend That

Bolivia's highly-successful Tahuichi side on the attack.

STAGING the 1994 World Cup Finals in the United States may not spark off a thriving professional league, but it will help to create even more interest at a level where soccer is booming . . . at the grass roots. Millions of boys and girls are now playing the game and taking part in youth events such as the American Airlines Dallas Cup.

WORLD SOCCER is proud to be associated with this prestigious tournament, which is now established as one of the best in the world.

Dallas journalist/photographer **PHIL STEPHENS** recalls the highlights of the tournament.

***SINCE** 1980 teams, referees, and dignitaries have travelled to Dallas from 75 countries.*

Over 13,000 foreign visitors have attended, many returning year after year.

What brings them back? A very simple combination — quality competition and a unique brand of Texan hospitality. Together they have created a legend — a legend which continues to grow.

Dallas Cup I

In 1980, *Dallas Cup I* kicked-off with 32 teams from just four countries, England, Germany, Mexico and the US.

That inaugural event was organised by the **Texas Longhorn's Soccer Club**, the host for 13 Dallas Cups and always the core of an ever-increasing volunteer base.

Soccer was growing in Dallas, and the spark of excitement was ignited by a team of pale, plucky lads from England. They were the Under-14 team from **St. Thomas More.**

According to tournament founder Ron Griffith: "St Thomas More's bunch put Dallas soccer on the map.

"People came and surrounded the field they were on. The parking lot filled up, and people driving down the street wondered what was going on."

The boys from England took home a Championship, sunburns and positive reports on a good time in Texas. Dallasites took home a vision of good soccer to come!

Dallas Cup II

Highlight of *Dallas Cup II* was the **Under-19 Lagos Stars** team from Nigeria. With the coaches wearing native costumes and the chanting of the players during the warm-up, the Stars were as spectacular off the field as on it.

More than 1,000 spectators watched as the flashy Nigerians were defeated 1-0 in a stirring semi-final by the **British Royal Navy.** It was one of the Dallas Cup's greatest matches. The Brits went on to claim the Under-19 crown with a 3-2 extra-time win over hosts, Texas Longhorns.

Dallas Cup II also will be remembered as the first tournament for visiting FIFA

Grows and Grows!

referees. **Marco Antonio Doprantes** from Mexico and **Abraham Klein** from Israel were among the referee corps.

The quality of referees at the Dallas Cup is considered by most to be the highest of any youth tournament in the world. Not only did these gentlemen set the standard, but they also began to spread the word worldwide about this unique experience in Dallas and to bring the attention of FIFA, the governing body of world soccer, to this international competition.

Dallas Cup III

Thirty-two foreign teams competed in *Dallas Cup III*. This time the **Nigerians** gained revenge against the Royal Navy with a 3-1 victory in the Under-19 final. **Mexico** claimed its first title in the Under-12 section, **CF Paris** from Mexico City beat Lewisville Athletico 5-3.

Everyone in North Texas will recognize the name of one of the 11-year-old stars from Lewisville. He was **Eloy Salgado**, later of the US National team, the Dallas Sidekicks, and the Dallas Rockets.

Dallas Cup IV

In *Dallas Cup IV* the Olympic team from Mexico were defeated in the Under-19 final by the NSL Selects from Toronto, Canada. The Canadians' tough, disciplined defence was also good enough for a great Championship in Dallas Cup V.

Dallas Cup VI

At *Dallas Cup VI* the **Trebor Lions** from Nigeria produced one of the finest teams to ever compete in the event. They clinched the Under-19 championship with a 4-0 victory over Club Nacional of Uruguay.

Despite a big field of foreigners at *Dallas Cup VII*, all titles were taken by American teams for the first and only time. The **La Jolla Nomads** took the Under-16 and Under-14 trophies back to California, while the **Dallas Comets** claimed the Under-19 Championship from the Kicks.

And then there was Tahuichi! For four straight years, **La Academia Tahuichi** from Santa Cruz, Bolivia captured the top Under-19 title and captivated Dallas spectators with their dazzling skills.

Dallas Cup VIII

Dallas Cup VIII featured one of the most memorable matches in tournament history. Tahuichi and the Under-16 US National team fought out a 1-1 draw in the semi-finals. The match was finally decided for Tahuichi on the eighth penalty kick. The Bolivians then beat NSL Selects 2-0 in the final.

Dallas Cup VIII also was the beginning of a new Dallas Cup tradition — girls' soccer. The first two Championships were won by the Under-19 **Sting** and the Under-16 **Spirit**.

Dallas Cup IX

Dallas Cup IX can be summed up with just one word — **Pele!** He attended the Opening Ceremonies at Lake Highlands Stadium.

On the field, Tahuichi claimed their second Championship with a tough 1-0 victory over the NSL Selects from Canada.

Dallas Cup X

At *Dallas Cup X* plenty of elite international competition showed up to dethrone Tahuichi, famous clubs such as **Malmo FF** of Sweden, **Kiev Dynamo** from the Ukraine, and **Club Nacional** of Uruguay. But the Bolivians were not to be denied. After defeating impressive competitors in the play-offs, Tahuichi edged East-West SC from Ohio 3-2 in the final.

Dallas Cup XI

Dallas Cup XI will be remembered as the year of the floods. Torrential rains disrupted the tournament, but all games were played.

In the inaugural year of the Super Group, over 12,000 spectators jammed Lake Highlands Stadium to watch the final between Tahuichi and a strong North Huntington Beach team from California. Tahuichi finally won 2-1.

Dallas Cup XII

1991 and **American Airlines** became the title sponsor of *Dallas Cup XII*. The worldwide growth of American Airlines, its sponsorship of World Cup US 1994, and its hometown ties to Dallas, all made the Dallas Cup a natural.

A strong **Moscow Dynamo** team ended the Tahuichi reign with a convincing 4-1 victory in the Super Group final.

Dallas Cup XIII

The American Airlines *Dallas Cup XIII* was distinguished by the most competitive field of teams ever and by the personal appearance of FIFA's president, **Dr. Joao Havelange**.

His presence reminded everyone of the importance that FIFA place on youth soccer.

Tahuichi returned to reclaim their Super Group crown; world events prohibited the return of Moscow Dynamo. But it was **West Ham United** of England who emerged victorious, defeating Tahuichi 2-1 in the final.

West Ham beat another top-flight North Huntington Beach team on their way to the Championship, while Tahuichi defeated an excellent CA Union Santa Fe team from Argentina 3-0 in the other semi-final.

What of the future? According to Executive Director **Bill Stroube:** "Everyone associated with Dallas and North Texas soccer has an opportunity over the next two years to make this the focal point of all soccer in North America."

In 1993, the tournament will be the most competitive ever.

Beyond 1993, The Super Group will become the major showcase of international youth club soccer in the world.

Two things are certain. The world of soccer will come to Dallas, and the youth of world soccer will have their day. Go see the Opening Ceremonies at **Lake Highlands Stadium** and look at the faces of the players and fans. The whole atmosphere generates fun and friendship. This is what the American Airlines Dallas Cup is all about — and always will be.

FIFA president Dr. Joao Havelange at Dallas Cup XIII.

World Cup '94 president Alan Rothenberg speaks to the fans.

NEXT MONTH: We focus on the Dallas Cup Super League.

Zamorano holds off Barcelona's Nadal during Real's 2-1 victory.

'Bribes' story makes the fur fly

PRESIDENT Josep Lluis Nunez did not need to go through the full electoral procedure in order to retain the post at Barcelona until 1997, due to a lack of opponents.

He opened his fifth term of office by claiming "if it hadn't been for the referee we would already be champions" and by naming one of his 31-strong board director of institutional relations, "so that things like the game in Madrid cannot happen again".

The fact that the director is named Bernabeu, and that the post was created a week after Barcelona had been accused of offering a £240,000 bribe, provoked all sorts of sarcastic comments.

Nunez returned to office two days after Barcelona's 2-1 defeat by Real Madrid in the Bernabeu stadium.

The referee, Manuel Diaz Vega, and the bribery scandal dominated the headlines, but 85,000 fans created a great atmosphere for a fiercely-contested match in which nine bookings seemed excessive. Despite the Catalan complaints, the result was about right.

The clash had been pre-heated by Real midfielder Luis Milla. On a radio show he alleged that a former colleague at Barcelona had offered him £240,000 to help "throw" the infamous match in Tenerife last June when Real, led 2-0 then lost 3-2, and handed the title to Barcelona.

Everyone wants to get into the act

Ivan Zamorano, who had his best game since arriving from Sevilla last summer, opened the scoring against Barca. Michael Laudrup then hit a delightful through pass for Guillermo Amor to equalise. And the deciding penalty was the detonator for explosive comments from Nunez, coach Johan Cruyff, etc. etc.

The referee snapped that his 42nd-minute decision was not to blame for Barcelona's defeat, whereas Cruyff's tactics certainly were. Cruyff had burst into Diaz Vega's dressing-room at half-time to complain, and later insisted that his performance had been little short of a pre-planned hold-up.

Cruyff gambled on tactical chances which did not come off. He opted for a five-man defence, playing the not-fully-fit Nadal at the back, with new signing Pablo, staring his first game for the club. Koeman, pushed forward, looked uncomfortable all evening. Laudrup found himself unusually short of support and options for the telling pass.

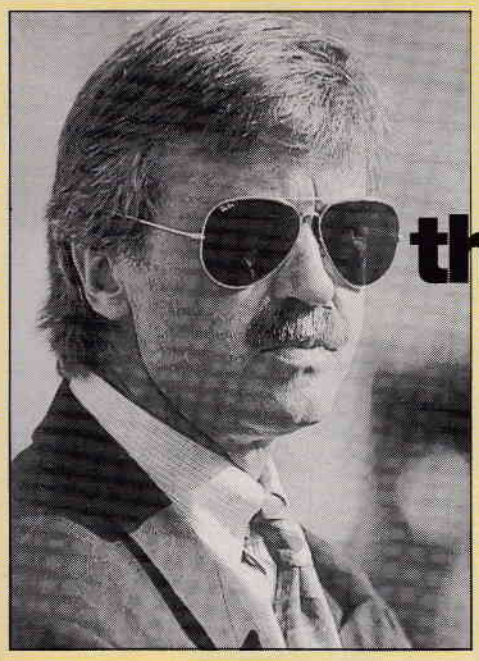
As a result, Real were allowed to draw dividends from their pressure game and convince themselves they may yet have claims to the title.

Michel, who won the penalty by falling under a challenge from Ferrer, is having an excellent season, and even though Benito Floro has yet to knock the defence into shape, there are encouraging signs that Robert Prosinecki is climbing back towards the standards which made him Europe's most-wanted footballer two years ago.

Five thigh-muscle injuries which ultimately needed surgery left him with a deep-rooted fear of striking the ball. His inhibitions produced an ordinary, ball-running, short-passing midfielder who represented the ideal target for opposition "squeezing".

The game against Barcelona, his 16th of the season, revealed a more adventurous player ready to hit the long ball and strike free-kicks, albeit inaccurately.

He could now become the key figure in Real's bid to wrest the title from Barcelona and Deportivo La Coruna.



Guus lights the gas

THE goalless draw between Celta and Deportivo La Coruna in Vigo was a poor reward for the capacity crowd who paid a record £475,000 to watch the first Galician derby in the First Division for 20 years.

But while Deportivo have been looking over their shoulders at Barcelona and Real, Valencia have threatened to move up on the rails.

Coach Guus Hiddink's head has been on the block while Valencia have been building a reputation for under-achieving. The side had shown meagre doses of ambition, especially in away games, where they seemed prepared to remove their slippers from the hearth only when the opposition scored.

Hiddink's Dutch upbringing leads him to believe that professionals must accept their responsibilities, but the Latin footballer is perhaps quicker to come to the boil and go off it.

Hiddink has been lighting the gas under a few backsides and Valencia have started to keep a few of their many pre-season promises.

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
La Coruna	21	14	5	2	37	13	33
Real Madrid	21	14	3	4	41	17	31
Barcelona	20	11	7	2	48	21	29
Valencia	21	10	7	4	30	16	27
Athletic Bilbao	21	11	3	7	33	29	25
Sevilla	21	10	5	6	27	24	25
Tenerife	21	8	8	5	32	24	24
Atletico Madrid	21	9	6	6	32	25	24
Osasuna	21	8	5	8	27	22	21
Espanol	21	7	7	7	29	30	21
Real Zaragoza	21	6	9	6	21	26	21
Rayo Vallecano	21	6	8	7	26	27	20
Sporting Gijon	21	6	7	8	21	30	19
Celta	21	5	8	8	13	19	18
Real Sociedad	21	6	4	11	26	37	16
Oviedo	20	4	7	9	19	23	15
Albacete	21	5	5	11	28	34	15
Logrones	21	2	8	11	14	31	12
Cadiz	21	2	8	11	17	42	12
Burgos	21	2	6	13	16	45	10

Private affair

ATLETICO MADRID have been struggling to prove that there is, after all, life after Paulo Futre.

They also must show that there is life after Luis Aragones (right), fired and replaced by Jose Omar Pastoriza — formerly with Independiente, Racing and Boca Juniors in his native

Army call for Futre as Aragones gets the boot

Argentina, and Monaco in France. The abrupt departure of Futre, Atletico's Portuguese forward, is further proof that he never knows how to say goodbye.

Futre (left), born in Montijo on February 28, 1966, joined Sporting Lisbon at the age of 11 and signed his first pro contract, worth £2.50 a week, at 14. Four years later he upped and left for FC Porto, only to write to the Portuguese FA in July 1985 asking them to declare his contract null and void.

His motive? Having signed for Atletico Madrid. The hue and cry reached so many decibels that, only three days later, he wrote a second letter asking them to ignore the first.

He finally left in June 1987 in the middle of a tournament in Milan. With Jesus Gil putting £2.5m on the table to buy the trump card in his campaign to become president.

Since then Gil and Futre have had a love-hate relationship. The president regarded Paulo as his standard-bearer, team captain and adopted son. Futre laughed, cried and sulked through a mixture of affection, smacks round the head and cash handouts which reach £1m per season. Every year he threatened to leave but couldn't quite spit out "adios".

In 1988 Gil turned down Roma's offer of £6m. A year later Juventus offered £7.5m. Future asked to leave after the penalty miss that put Atletico out of the UEFA Cup.

In March 1990 he locked himself in his villa and moaned "I won two leagues and the Champions' Cup with Porto. I came here as a winner and I've failed. I want to leave whatever the price".

He didn't. Ditto in June 1991. After an offer to rejoin Artur Jorge at PSG, Futre moaned: "I can't play. My head is in Paris."

"He can put his bum on the subs' bench," retorted Gil.

Curiously, the final rift was not opened by Gil but by Aragones. He had begun 1993 by criticising Futre's lack of effort in training, and after the derby against Real he told the media: "I am happy with all my players except one — Futre."

Paulo reported for national team duty in Lisbon vowing never to return to Atletico. First he locked himself away in his hotel room, refusing to train. When he reported for duty next day, he burst into tears during a practice game and was "excused" from travelling to Malta.

Internazionale, initially linked with him, backed off with a spokesman saying: "Futre is grandissimo as a player but there are doubts whether he has the character to withstand the pressures of calcio."

In the meantime, Gil had revealed that he would waive the £14.5m fee stipulated in Futre's contract and would take £4.5m cash. Paulo discussed a return to Sporting. Then Benfica muscled in. Futre signed a year-to-year contract, president Jorge de Brito travelled to Madrid with the cash, and Gil had finally lost his adopted son.

But Futre's goodbyes are never that easy. Aragones said he might be better off without a player who smoked too much, even lighting up in the dressing-room before training. "There are other things," he added darkly, "which make him less than the perfect professional."

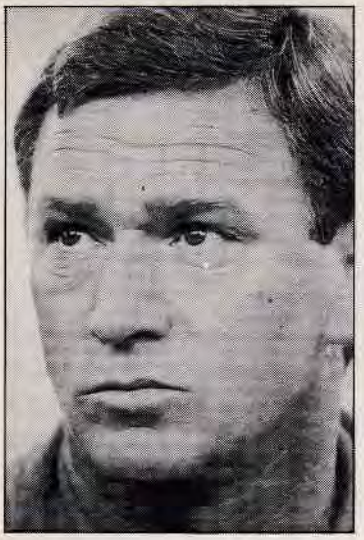
Then came the news that £3m of the cash which the Eagles had landed was taxpayers' money put up by the Portuguese state TV network, *RTP*. Director Antonio Monteiro de Lemos lost his job amid furious reactions from Sporting and Porto, livid that public money had been spent in providing their rivals with an ace card in the bidding for honours.

And then there was the letter from the Ministry of Defence. When Futre had left Portugal he had invoked Article 25 which allowed him to postpone his military service while working abroad.

Article 25, however, also stipulates an immediate call to arms should he return before the age of 29. Futre is 27, and is hurriedly pulling strings in a bid to avoid an appointment with the army hairdresser a week after the big game against Porto in April.

Aragones paid the price for the club's slide down the table and their 5-0 defeat by Barsa in the Spanish Cup — their worst home defeat since 1951.

GRAHAM **TURNER**



Fairy story

Thomas the Dane plays for Spain

JAVIER CLEMENTE (above) took over the national team last summer with New Broom written all over him. Far from sweeping clean, he seems to have increased the clutter.

Revolutions were expected, but few could forsee that he would use 31 players in half a dozen matches, including no fewer than 11 new caps.

Julen Guerrero, at the age of 19 years and 20 days, became the second-youngest player to represent Spain behind the legendary Zubieta, who was 17 and 10 months when he made his debut against Czechoslovakia in 1936.

Clemente aroused controversy by staring both games against Latvia without any Real Madrid players in his line-up.

Spain's last Real-free line-up was their opening game in the 1980 European Championship finals against Italy, when Juanito raised a solitary white flag by going on as sub.

But the mother, father and ancestral tree of curious records belongs to a name missing from the list of new caps. Thomas Christiansen is a 19-year-old Dane who became the 25th non-Spaniard to represent Spain and only the third European "foreigner" behind Ladislao Kubala and Ferenc "Pancho" Puskas.

Christiansen, a striker from Barcelona "B", is the fourth player from the Second Division to be selected, behind Langara, Vega and Zoco. The rest is so much of a fairy tale that he should perhaps have been baptised Hans Anders Christiansen.

He sums it up in one sentence: "Two years ago I was a nobody in Danish football, and now I am an international for Spain."

His debut in the second half of the 1-1 draw with Mexico started with 15 minutes of headless-chicken running, followed by half-an-hour which drew praise from Clemente.

The supreme irony would be a place in Spain's crucial match on March 31 in Copenhagen . . . where Thomas was born on March 11, 1973.

His father had met and married while representing a cement company in Madrid. His job later took him to Panama, where Thomas was beaten up by school-mates for speaking pidgin Spanish. He promptly brushed up on his mother's tongue.

His footballing education took him through junior levels at Avedore, Brondby, Hvidore and B93, where he got his big break. Danish agent Benny Nielsen mentioned the "Spaniard" to Johan Cruyff's assistant, Tony Bruins, and although an earlier trial for Real Madrid had drawn a blank, he impressed coaches at Nou Camp.

In July 1991 he signed for the third team and after battling with bureaucracy for a Spanish ID card, he breasted the red tape in time to make a handful of appearances for the "B" team in the Second Division.

Last summer, Cruyff decided to include Christiansen in his squad for a pre-season training camp in Holland, and he responded with eight goals in friendlies.

This season he is top scorer for Barcelona "B" and he began the New Year by signing a contract linking him to Barcelona until June 1997.

In the meantime he had become the rope in a tug-of-war between Denmark and Spain. The former invited him to play for their Under-21s against Northern Ireland. He refused, and was equally reluctant when Spain made a similar approach.

Under FIFA rules, one appearance would mean a commitment for life and other foreigners, such as Paraguayan striker Raul Amarilla, have ruined their international careers by representing Spain at Under-21 level.

But when Clemente's assistant, former Bilbao defender Andoni Goicoechea, asked Christiansen to play against Germany last December he threw in his lot with Spain, scored their first goal in a 2-1 win, and earned a sufficiently glowing report for Clemente to watch his next club game. Christiansen obliged by scoring one goal and setting up the other.

Clemente, who had experimented with ten forwards in five previous games, promptly decided that there ain't nuthin' like a Dane.

And Thomas, having represented his adopted country, now dreams of playing a game in his club's first team.

GRAHAM **TURNER**

RESULTS

Barcelona's Koeman battles with Real Madrid's Hierro (4).

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

ATHLETIC BILBAO 3 (Guerero 22, 52, Medidi 26)
REAL ZARAGOZA 2 (Poyet 16, 34). Att: 37,000.

LOGRONES 0
ESPANOL 0. Att: 2,000.

VALENCIA 5 (Penev 12, 17, Fernando 26, Roberto 36, 90)
CADIZ 0. Att: 40,000.

LA CORUNA 2 (Claudio 4, Bebeto 45)
OVIEDO 1 (Jankovic 90). Att: 29,000.

ALBACETE 1 (Antonio 27)
RAYO VALLECANO 0. Att: 12,000.

SPORTING GIJON 0
CELTA 3 (Ratkovic 46, Cudelic 49, Otero 62). Att: 17,000.

BURGOS 0
SEVILLA 2 (Bango 42, Suker 45). Att: 8,000.

BARCELONA 2 (Bakero 69, Goicoetchea 77)
OSASUNA 1 (Kosecki 74 pen). Att: 80,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Sabas 16)
REAL MADRID 1 (Zamorano 27). Att: 60,000.

TENERIFE 1 (Pizzi 90)
REAL SOCIEDAD 0. Att: 22,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

WEEKEND

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Guy 66)
ATLETICO MADRID 0. Att: 20,000.

ESPANOL 2 (Escaich 61, Lluis 77)
ATLETIC BILBAO 0. Att: 32,000.

CADIZ 2 (Quevedo 23, Arteaga 45)
LOGRONES 2 (Kleber 76) Amarildo 79). Att: 8,000.

OVIEDO 0
VALENCIA 1 (Penev 23 pen). Att: 16,200.

RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Riesco 9)
LA CORUNA 1 (Bebeto 90). Att: 11,000.

CELTA 1 (Salillas 77)
ALBACETE 1 (Pinilla 52). Att: 11,000.

SEVILLA 1 (Maradona 2)
GIJON 0. Att: 45,000.

OSASUNA 1 (Aguilar 14)
BURGOS 0. Att: 12,720.

REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (Kodro 57 pen, 89)
BARCELONA 2 (Koeman 45 pen, Stoichkov 66). Att: 15,800.

REAL MADRID 3 (Zamorano 27, 76, 95)
TENERIFE 0. Att: 90,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

WEEKEND

ESPANOL 2 (Francisco 43, Escaich 64)
REAL ZARAGOZA 0. Att: 28,000.

CADIZ 2 (Arteaga 49, Quino 60)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 3 (Guerreró 8, 50) Ciganda 13). Att: 7,000.

OVIEDO 0
LOGRONES 0. Att: 16,000.

RAYO VALLECANO 0
VALENCIA 1 (Penev 45 pen). Att: 9,000.

CELTA 0
LA CORUNA 0. Att: 33,000.

SEVILLA 2 (Bango 7, Catali 80 o.g.)
ALBACETE 1 (Pinilla 29). Att: 38,000.

OSASUNA 3 (Aguila 9, Urban 29, M. Gonzalez 77)
GIJON 0. Att: 13,000.

REAL MADRID 2 (Zamorano 9, Michel 41 pen)
BARCELONA 1 (Amor 15). Att: 80,000.

REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (Kodro 15, Oceano 62 pen)
BURGOS 2 (Balint 58 pen, Aguirre 75). Att: 14,000.

TENERIFE 2 (Chano 12, Estebaranz 24)
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Garcia 51, 61). Att: 23,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

WEEKEND

REAL ZARAGOZA 0
CADIZ 0. Att: 28,000.

ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Carlos Garcia 85)
OVIEDO 0. Att: 38,000.

LOGRONES 0
RAYO VALLECANO 0. Att: 9,000.

VALENCIA 1 (Alvaro 33)
CELTA 1 (Ratkovic 73). Att: 40,000.

LA CORUNA 2 (Fran 57, Aldana 85)
SEVILLA 0. Att: 28,000.

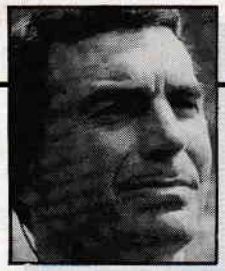
ALBACETE 0
OSASUNA 0. Att: 11,000.

SPORTING GIJON 2 (Juanele 37 pen, Alberto 58)
REAL SOCIEDAD 4 (Luis Perez 28, 67, Uria 39, 53). Att: 16,000.

BURGOS 1 (Emilio 80)
REAL MADRID 2 (Martin Vazquez 11, 68). Att: 20,000.

BARCELONA 1 (Pablo 57)
TENERIFE 1 (Dertycia 12). Att: 68,000.

ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Moya 40, Manolo 51)
ESPANOL 1 (Escaich 43). Att: 20,000.



BROOKING TALKBACK

BBC Radio and TV commentator TREVOR BROOKING, the former England midfielder, answers your letters...

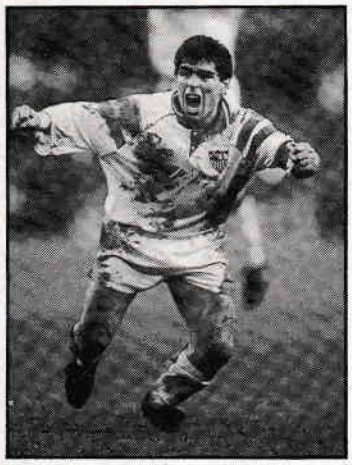
Sudden death

SIR — I support penalties! I am 16, so maybe I'm not too experienced, but in my opinion it's the best way to find a winning team after full-time and extra-time. It isn't a lottery — skill counts.
— MAREK MOS, Ul Aemii Ludowej 416, 44-121 Gliwice, Poland.

● IF you were involved in a penalty shoot-out and lost I think you might change your mind!

An acceptable alternative is not easy to find amidst the various suggestions people have put forward. Sudden death in extra time is a possibility, but there would have to be some time limit otherwise the match could go on endlessly.

Awarding victory to the side winning most corners is another way which might reward the team with the most positive attacking approach.



Diego delight

SIR — I read the report by Hansi Muller about Maradona (my idol) in the January *WORLD SOCCER*, and found it very interesting and informative. I want to know your opinion about Maradona's comeback. Can he shine again? To Hansi Muller, the Gentleman of Germany, thank you for an impressive report.
— WALID NAHRI, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9B 3Y8, Canada.

● I'M sure we all enjoyed Hansi's report and naturally welcome back any supremely gifted footballer like Maradona. Realistically, I doubt whether he is ever likely to achieve the level of brilliance he displayed during the 1980s. Despite that I'm sure Spanish supporters will enjoy the opportunity of seeing some of the elaborate skills the Argentine is renowned for.

Elite League

SIR — In the past few years there has been much talk about the big European clubs making a breakaway to form a Super League.

Why don't UEFA themselves expand the Super Cup, the matches between the winners of Champions' Cup and Cup-winners' Cup, to include the UEFA Cup winners and the holders of the Super Cup (e.g. this season it would have been contested between Barcelona, Werder Bremen, Ajax and Manchester United). Then those four should play in an all-season mini-league.

That would keeps the league an independent tournament, under the control of UEFA, and would not take any interest away from the domestic tournaments or the European cups.
— ALLAN GULDBERG (16), Aarhus, Denmark.

● YOUR idea would only appeal to the small elite group invited to take part, and would not involve sufficient numbers to quieten those European clubs wanting a Super League. The additional games would also be an extra problem for the participants, assuming they were involved in all their normal fixtures as well.

Going for Gold

SIR — As the debate between FIFA and the IOC over the format for the Olympic soccer tournament continues, it is perhaps time to consider other options.

The IOC want full national sides to play in the Olympics, but FIFA rightly claim this would devalue the World Cup, which should always be the World's premier international competition.

Conversely the IOC are not happy with the current situation whereby only under-23 players are eligible, feeling that this devalues their event because the top players are not on show.

Perhaps a good compromise would be to open the Olympic tournament to ALL players, providing they have not been capped at full level. This would allow developing young players to gain international experience and would give seasoned professionals who never quite made it to the international level a chance to show what they can do.

If the tournament were open to all uncapped players, then Britain — if they entered — could field a very strong side. Consider this line-up: Ogrizovic (Coventry City), Barton (Wimbledon), Wright (Blackburn), Samways (Tottenham Hotspur), Bruce (Manchester United), Bould (Arsenal), Ripley (Blackburn Rovers), Ferdinand (Queen's Park Rangers), Atkinson (Aston Villa), Kiwomya (Ipswich Town).

What price Olympic gold with that team?
— CHRIS MACKENZIE, Chester-le-Street, County Durham, England.

● WE have looked at this selection compromise before, but any such team is bound to have a number of those players you suggest capped during the qualifying period. One of the latest suggestions it to allow only three full internationals in any team as a maximum number.

It would then enable the Olympics to include a few star names to bolster the attraction of the tournament. I still don't feel that is acceptable. The World Cup is the ultimate football trophy and should not be threatened by attempts to make the Olympics more marketable. It does not affect us anyway as we always refuse to send a British team as it could set a dangerous precedent for retaining separate home country involvement in the World Cup.

Waste of time

SIR — In a recent game between Wimbledon and Liverpool, Wimbledon tried to make a substitution in injury time in the second half.

Substitutes were brought into the game for the replacement of players because of injury or tactical reasons. Many clubs are abusing this privilege and this case, as in many other occasions, was blatant time-wasting.

The referee should blow his whistle say 10 minutes from the end as an indication that no further substitutions are permitted. This could be signalled by the fourth official or a designated linesman. If a player is injured in the last 10 minutes of the game, that team play short-handed.

Where extra time is to be played the short-handed team can then use their substitute but again some time restraint should be put on the use of a further substitute in the closing minutes for the express purpose of wasting time.
— GEORGE CAMPBELL, 10 Terrance Drive, Brantford, Ontario, N3R 3GI, Canada.

● I CAN understand your frustration with possible time-wasting but feel it is unnecessary to tamper with this particular rule as it could penalise a side late on in a match if a player becomes genuinely injured. I haven't seen too many games this season where such a delaying ploy has been used, and hopefully the referee would hasten the switch so that very little disruption occurred to the flow of the match.

Italia convert

SIR — My wife's hatred of football is equalled only by her love of horses. I've tried to get her interested, but the response is always the same — "It's boring, all they do is kick and hope!"

Yesterday I sat down to watch an Italian game on TV.

"This is exciting, isn't it?" said my wife.

"I thought you didn't like football" I replied.

"I like this, they are all so skilful" she answered.

The upshot is that she has pledged to watch all Italian games in future. Does her sudden change of heart mean that she has at last seen the light, or is it that our game is so poor that "Serie A" appears to be a different sport?
— MIKE PRINCE, Longfield House, School Road, Thorney Hill, Bransgore, Hampshire, BH23 8DS.

● OBVIOUSLY your wife only appreciates "thoroughbreds!" Your comments take us back to William Hatchman's letter, and the reason why clubs must once again put their emphasis on developing players with skill and good technique.

I can only endorse her comments on the enjoyment she derives from watching "Serie A". They have spent millions on purchasing the top attacking players in the World, which naturally gives them a distinct advantage over everyone else. In England we need to coach good basic techniques for our young defenders in particular, because then the service to midfield and the forwards will improve, and enable sides to keep possession that much better.

●You can write to Trevor Brooking, c/o *WORLD SOCCER*, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.
●Comments are Trevor Brooking's opinions and do not necessary reflect *WORLD SOCCER'S* views. He will answer only those letters published.

Ref rules

SIR — The referee's decision is final . . . but time and again, when everyone sees the video replay, it is quite clear that the decision was wrong.

The referee can't be everywhere and see everything. A second referee working along the touchline or perhaps watching from the stands would be better. The two could work together and fairer decisions could be made. The 1990 World Cup was a poor one for referees and linesmen.

Everyone says there is more pressure in the game now, and there is certainly more money involved. More than this, though, a team, club or national, will reach the final of a major tournament perhaps once in a lifetime. To be robbed of glory because of an error by the ref is very sad for everyone involved.

If the action replay is available to the commentary team, why not to the referee?

— V KIRBY, 55 Elstow Road, Bedford Beds, MK42 9NT.

● I ASSUME you are suggesting the action replay for major international competitions only, rather than domestic matches. It would be impossible at domestic level as not every match would have the facility available, and so the inconsistency would be unfair to those clubs missing out.

Internally, where all games are televised the option would be easier, but I still have my doubts. What about a disallowed offside goal which is subsequently proved to be a wrong decision by the linesman?

The goalkeeper could claim he was distracted by the flagging linesman and didn't attempt to stop the shot properly.

Welcome signs

SIR — On reading the comment on deteriorating skill and flair levels in the English game, I had to put pen to paper.

Over the years we've had some skilful players in the league, Jason Wilcox of Blackburn Rovers and Manchester's City's Gary Flitcroft (right) are currently playing in the Premier League.

When the players leave the Youth Leagues, are they encouraged to use their skill and flair, or have they to play to a strict team format?

— WILLIAM HATCHMAN (Bolton Boys Federation registration secretary), 29 Abingdon Road, Bolton, Lancs.

● YOU mentioned Jason Wilcox and Gary Flitcroft, but hopefully they are just a couple of the young players who seem to be making the headlines this season. Ryan Giggs (Manchester United), Nick Barmby (Spurs), Jamie Redknapp (Liverpool) and Chris Bart-Williams (Sheffield Wednesday) are other examples where skill and flair are beginning to filter through from the junior ranks.

There has been a shortage of this type of quality player in previous seasons, but they are desperately needed so that sides can excite and entertain their supporters. Of course players have to learn to adapt to a team format, but it will be a sad day if there is no room for the individualist who can win a match with a piece of unique footwork.

There are welcome signs though, that skill is on the way back, as the kick and rush brigade have struggled for results this season.

Burdened Brazilians

SIR — Can anything be done to help relieve Brazilian clubs of the burden of playing more than two games a week all the time?

Brazil's top 20 teams must be released from the regional state championships so that they can play each other, home and away, in a national championship that lasts all season, with relegation and promotion play-offs for state winners.

They're lucky that the best clubs haven't pulled out and started their own Super League.

— JONATHAN LEWIS, 254 Hawes Lane, West Wickham, Kent.

● I SEEM to have heard this argument somewhere else? Our Premier League refuses to reduce the fixture demands, and even when clubs get a free week they quickly arrange a friendly match abroad to make some extra cash. Brazil seems to be suffering the same obsession as any football country — money!

PENPALS

STUDENT, 20, football fan and player (outside-left) seeks penpals anywhere.
— Fagbore Akintunde, c/o Olufay, Fld PMB 1528, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria.

LIVERPOOL and Villa fan looking for penfriends, m/f —
Sibangilizwe Sikhosana, 1791 New Magulgwe, PO Magwegwe, Bulawyo, Zimbabwe.

MALE Leeds fan,17 seeks m/f penfriends.
— Endma Maxwell, Feanaught, Anghamore, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, Rep. of Ireland.

MILAN, Liverpool and Barca fans, please write.
— Edy Santos (17), JL. Prapanca No. 33, Surabaya 60241, Indonesia.

I'M 20, a soccer and music fan. Please write!
— Nicola Christov Tsachev, Mladost 1, BL. 46 VH. 7 Ap.110, Sofia 1784, Bulgaria.

FOOTBALL fan seeks m/f penpals.
— Ala'a Muhsin, PO Box 5066, Baghdad, Iraq.

BORDEAUX and Milan fan, male, 17, looking for penpals in France and Italy.
— 26 Brook Drive, Sheffield, S3 7HN, England.

FEYENOORD fan seeks penpals from Manchester United. Interested? Please write.
— Serge van Osselen, Rembrandtstraat 81 3262 HP, Oud-Beyerland, Holland.

KEEN player and fan wants to correspond with other soccer-lovers worldwide.
— Puran Yadav, Cha 2.474 Kholagal, Lazimpat, Katmandu, Nepal.

CELTIC and Man United fan seeks penpals anywhere, any team. All letters answered.
— Michael Timmins, 78 Quarry Road, Fauldhouse, West Lothian, Scotland EH47 9HA.

TANZANIAN soccer fan looking for a penpal anywhere in the world. Also fond of films and music.
— Edward-Mark Edwinson, c/o Chandy, PO Box 5402, Dar-es-salaam, Tanzania.

I AM an Ivorian, now living in Nigeria. I love soccer, esp. in Europe and US. Please write in French or English.
— Abdoulaye Camara, 7 Independence St., Anifowose-Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria.

FEMALE soccer fans seeking penfriends.
— Adriana Fandoh (24), PO Box 390, Cape Coast, Ghana, and Janet Hayford (23), PO Box 1121, Cape Coast, Ghana.

EXCHANGES

FOOTBALL souvenirs for exchange. Genuine collectors only.
— David George, 186 Downham St, Blackburn, Lancs BB2 6NS, England.

I COLLECT everything related to football, and want to hear from others.
— Srdan Stajic, Isidore Sekulic 9/30, 26000 Pancevo, Yugoslavia.

SOCCER stamps and badges for exchange. All letters answered, in English.
— Piotr Stasiek, 43-310 Bielsko-Biala, ul. Przemyslowa 33, Poland.

TICKETS, badges, hats, T-shirts etc. for exchange. Please write in English, answers assured.
— Mike Kulik, H-8 F1-85, 109382 Sovhoznaya Str., Moscow, Russia.

I'M A FAN of Manchester United and Newcastle, wanting to exchange badges, emblems and other souvenirs.
— Adrian Turturea, Of. Postal 10, Post Restant, Bucharest, Romania.

BADGES from English clubs wanted in exchange for Polish.
— Ronnald c/o Z. Michalowski, ul. Winniczna 7A/10, 78-400, Szczecinek, Poland.

ALL letters answered by CSKA Moscow fan with all sorts of soccer souvenirs to exchange.
— Alexey Molgachev, F. 95 h. 2A, pd. Shokalskogo, 129642 Moscow, Russia.

PAOK Salonica fan wants to exchange souvenirs with European supporters.
— Polys Tsabazes, Pailio Railway Station, GT 54627, Salonica, Greece.

FOR SALE

SPANISH First Division enamel badges.
— Ricardo Lopez, Apartado de Correos 54762, 78080 Madrid, Spain.

WANTED

I NEED a Sheffield Wednesday shirt, urgently. Please help.
— Henrik Eriksson, Tradgardsgatan 15, 66400 Grums, Sweden.

FOOTBALL shirts wanted, England/ Scottish clubs.
— Sifelimpilo Dube, 285 Leopold Takawira, Kumalo, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

VIDEOS of Italy-Germany in Turin in March 91 and Holland-Italy in Eindhoven in Sept 91. Will pay good price.
— Paolo Natalizi, 1 Wedge Gardens, PO Box 89912, Lyndhurst 2106, Johannesburg, S. Africa.

ARE YOU GETTING THE NEW-LOOK

Here are six good reasons why Britain's top selling all-colour football magazine should be part of your weekly soccer diet.

1 It's bigger, brighter and better than any of its rivals.
2 The features and fun never stop.
3 No other mag gives its readers a bigger say.
4 It's packed with the latest news from home and abroad.
5 The competition prizes are always worth winning.
6 Our Extra Time results service is second to none.

SHOOT ***Out every Tuesday***

The waiting game

AUSTRIANS always have been attracted to German football, and not only because of racial and linguistic ties.

After the annexation of the country by the Nazis in 1938, several Austrians played for the all-German national side, some with great distinction.

THE LIGHT ON ANDY HERZOG

That era has gone, but the postwar generation of Austrians still regard Germany in many ways as a role model. With the introduction of professional football and the creation of the Bundesliga, Austrian internationals were again in demand.

The latest recruit from Germany's neighbours is Andy Herzog, a superb midfield orchestrator who moved last summer from Rapid Vienna to Werder Bremen for £1m — a record for the German club.

He became an instant hit: in the half-yearly ratings compiled by the country's leading sports paper, *Kicker*, Herzog was ranked best attacking midfielder in the Bundesliga, one of only two players given the accolade "international class", by the conservative voters.

Earlier Herzog was nominated Footballer of the Year by the Austrian First Division managers.

Andreas Herzog (his name means duke in German), was born on September 10, 1968, in Vienna.

He studied at a high school and graduated with honours, after he had started his football career at the age of seven with the juniors of Admira/Wacker.

Between 1983 and 1987 he was with Rapid Vienna, 1987-1988 with First Vienna, 1988-92 again with Rapid, and was then transferred to Bremen.

Team boss Otto Rehhagel watched him for over four years (!) before deciding to move in.

Herzog had great successes with Rapid, for whom he played 140 League matches and scored 39 goals. He also played 13 Champions' Cup games.

He won an Austrian championship medal and one in the Austrian Cup, both in 1987, and took part in the 1990 World Cup.

In his last international, curiously enough against Germany in Nuremburg last November, he claimed his 36th cap.

Herzog, whose father was a successful footballer and trained him since childhood, always wanted to be a pro, but never dreamed he would make it in Germany, in one of the best leagues in the world.

"The pace of the game, the class and the crowds surpass anything I experienced back home, but we Austrians can also play a bit," he says, and recalls how at the age of ten he celebrated Austria's 3-2 victory over the Germans in the 1978 World Cup, and then the 4-1 win in 1986.

"Since then we have done nothing," he observes sadly. The absolute low was after the numbing 1-0 defeat by the Faroe Islands in a European Championship qualifying tie just over two years ago.

"For the following three weeks I only went out wearing a disguise," he said.

"After that match they called me for a dope test. What a laugh. I told them 'Don't be stupid, if I had been doped I wouldn't have played so badly."

Herzog has settled down well in Bremen.

"A very professional and efficiently-run club," he says. "Rehhagel is marvellous. No wonder he has been there 12 years."

Yet Bayern Munich are his favourite club.

"When the Austrian teams are knocked out of Europe, I always support Bayern," he says.

Herzog acknowledges the acclamation he receives in Germany and the much-publicised interest in him shown by other clubs, including Internazionale. But he points out: "I am not yet ready for Italy. I first want to establish myself in the Bundesliga.

"I'd like to develop other aspects of my game and become more efficient defensively."

When asked about his targets, he replies: "I intend to become a superstar in Germany, win a title with Werder Bremen, avoid injury and lead Austria to the 1994 World Cup."

His idols are Michel Platini and Diege Maradona. "These two were the best midfielders ever," he insists, "but Platini was my favourite player."

Other personalities he admires are Franz Beckenbauer — "world champion as a player and manager, that is incredible," and Hans Krankl, once the best striker in Europe.

"He and Josef Hickersberger were my best managers before I came to Germany," Herzog says.

Krankl once described Herzog as "the white Gullit", but Happel and Rehhagel gave the Austrian the final polish.

Privately Herzog is very happy. He lost his heart to Kathi, a beautiful blond with a marvellous figure.

She too is Viennese and a former secretary in an advertising agency.

She is colourful, a bubbly personality often seen in the Werder Bremen club offices.

Herzog intends to marry, settle down and start a family.

"When I stop playing I should like to sit back and say to myself that I have achieved everything that I wanted," he says without any trace of arrogance.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

PRO-FILE

ANDY HERZOG

WERDER BREMEN AND AUSTRIA

Born: September 10, 1968, in Vienna.

Previous clubs: Admira/Wacker, Rapid Vienna, First Vienna (loan), Rapid Vienna.

International caps: 36.

HONOURS

Austrian Championship: 1987.

Austrian Cup: 1987.

Top marks for going indoors

GERMAN clubs think they have at last found the answer to the problem of bridging the ten-week winter break.

This can be costly if there is no income at the gate, or from television and advertising.

For the past six years they have been organising indoor tournaments, and this time these have sparked unprecedented interest and produced record receipts.

All 18 Bundesliga clubs played qualifying events throughout January in 15 towns and cities, and the competition culminated with the Masters finals in Munich.

Incredibly, the arenas with a capacity of between 3,000 and 12,000 have all been sold out, some well in advance, despite the fact that matches are televised live.

The seven TV channels which broadcast sport in Germany have been falling over themselves to secure exclusive rights, which were sold to the highest bidder.

Most clubs took part in several tournaments. Champions VfB Stuttgart and Bayern Munich each played in four events, while Hamburg SV performed in six and Kaiserslautern in seven, some abroad. Ten foreign clubs from five countries also were in action.

Koln's technical director, former international Karl-Heinz Thielen, explained: "These indoor matches keep the players in first-class physical condition and — just as importantly — the receipts from these events pay our out-goings for the whole of January."

His club won the Masters thanks to a 2-1 over Stuttgart in the final.

Moller . . . could be on his way back to Germany.

Quality lacking

THE Bundesliga will be enriched by the return of yet another Italian exile, midfielder Matthias Sammer. He has joined Borussia Dortmund for an official fee of £3.2m, plus receipts from a friendly against the selling club, Inter.

Sammer, a former East German international, left VfB Stuttgart last summer, but lasted just six months in Italy.

Apart from Dortmund, Sammer's former club, Stuttgart, who had first option on him, wanted him back. Through their interference his transfer was delayed and he missed the UEFA registration deadline, so that he will not be able to help Dortmund in the UEFA Cup.

Another Italian "legionnaire" who is said to be considering a return to Germany is midfielder Andy Moller.

The Germans engaged abroad are no longer so highly regarded, as the half-yearly rankings produced by the sports paper *Kicker* confirm.

Not one German exile has been rated "world class". Eight players, headed by Jurgen Kohler of Juventus, are given the accolade "international class".

Kicker headlined its summary with the apt description of "twilight of gods", and added "nothing is left of our once glorious Italian mercenaries".

On the managerial scene, the big surprise was the decision of Yugoslav-born Dragoslav Stepanovic to leave Eintracht Frankfurt for Bayer Leverkusen, as from July.

Stepanov was a hit in Frankfurt with only seven defeats in 64 Bundesliga matches, missing the championship by a whisker on the last day last season.

Eintracht wanted to keep the popular "Stepi", but Leverkusen made him a much better financial offer and this decided the issue. He will earn £340,000 a year as the ninth manager for the Bayer works team in 14 years.

Apart fr[illegible]ich Ribbeck (now with Bayern Munich) nobody was happy there, not even Dutchman Rinus Michels

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

Sammer . . . back home in Germany with Borussia Dortmund.

RESULTS

MASTERS TOURNAMENT
(in Munich)

Group A

VfB STUTTGART 1 (F. Walter)
KOLN 2 (Baumann, Greiner)

KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Vogel, Ritter)
CHEMNITZER FC 3 (Bittermann, Heidrich 2)

KOLN 4 (Ordenewitz 2, Baumann 2)
KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Vogel)

CHEMNITZER FC 3 (Bittermann, Renn, Boer)
VfB STUTTGART 5 (Strunz 2, Frontzeck, Golke, Buchwald)

VfB STUTTGART 5 (Buchwald 2, Strehmel, Otto, Gaudino)
KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (Hajradinovic, Goldbaek)

CHEMNITZER FC 2 (Wienhold, Gerber)
KOLN 3 (Ordenewitz 2, Rudy)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
KOLN	3	3	0	0	9	4	6
VfB STUTTGART	3	2	0	1	11	7	4
Chemnitzer FC	3	1	0	2	8	10	2
Kaiserslautern	3	0	0	3	5	12	0

Group B

HANNOVER 3 (Daschner, Raickovic, Djelmas)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 7 (Mill 3, Sammer 2, Zelic, Karl)

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Labbadia 2)
HAMBURG SV 4 (Rohde, Spies, Matysik, Letchkov)

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1 (Poschner)
BAYERN MUNICH 4 (Labbadia 2, Scholl, Wouters)

HAMBURG SV 6 (Rohde, Spies 2, Letchkov, Dochev, Bode)
HANNOVER 3 (Koch, Kretzschmar, Weiland)

HANNOVER 3 (Daschner, Kretzschmar, Raickovic)
BAYERN MUNICH 4 (Labbadia 3, Scholl)

HAMBURG SV 2 (Dochev, Schnoor)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 4 (Sammer 2, Karl, Rummenigge)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BOR.DORTMUND	3	2	0	1	12	9	4
HAMBURG SV	3	2	0	1	12	9	4
Bayern Munich	3	2	0	1	10	8	4
Hannover	3	0	0	3	9	17	0

Semi-finals

KOLN 2 (Janssen 2)
HAMBURG SV 2 (Bode, Rohde)
Koln won 4-2 in 8-metre shoot-out

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 5 (Sammer 3, Karl, Poschner)
VfB STUTTGART 7 (Gaudino 3, Frontzeck 2, Golke, Strehmel)

Final

KOLN 2 (Greiner, Steinmann)
VfB STUTTGART 1 (Buchwald)

LEADING SCORERS

7	Sammer	Bor. Dortmund
	Labbadia	Bayern Munich
4	Ordenewitz	Koln
	Buchwald	VfB Stuttgart
	Gaudino	VfB Stuttgart
3	Karl	Bor. Dortmund
	Mill	Bor. Dortmund
	Rohde	Hamburg SV
	Spies	Hamburg SV
	Frontzeck	VfB Stuttgart

PLAYERS OF THE TOURNAMENT

Matthias SAMMER *(Bor. Dortmund)*
Bruno LABBADIA *(Bayern Munich)*

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	17	9	7	1	36	21	25
Ein. Frankfurt	17	8	8	1	32	19	24
Werder Bremen	17	8	7	2	27	17	23
Bor. Dortmund	17	9	3	5	34	25	21
Karlsruhe	17	9	3	5	37	31	21
Leverkusen	17	6	8	3	35	21	20
Stuttgart	17	6	7	4	25	24	19
Kaiserslautern	17	8	2	7	29	20	18
Nurnberg	17	7	3	7	16	19	17
Dyn. Dresden	17	5	6	6	21	25	16
Schalke	17	5	6	6	18	23	16
Hamburg	17	3	9	5	22	23	15
Saarbrucken	17	4	6	7	23	30	14
Koln	17	6	1	10	23	27	13
Borussia Mg.	17	3	7	7	22	33	13
Wattenscheid	17	4	4	9	25	35	12
Uerdingen	17	3	5	9	16	36	11
Bochum	17	1	6	10	18	30	8

● THE Bundesliga resumes, after its winter hibernation, on February 20, with the following fixtures:

Dynamo Dresden v Eintracht Frankfurt, Koln v Kaiserslautern, Bayern Munich v Bayer Uerdingen, Wattenscheid v Schalke 04, Borussia Dortmund v VfL Bochum, Borussia Monchengladbach v Karlsruher SC, Saarbrucken v Bayer Leverkusen, Werder Bremen v Nurnberg, VfB Stuttgart v SV Hamburg.

Loko looks likely

Nantes find a striker after seven years

THREE goals in two French representative matches might seem a pretty good haul for most attackers, but for Patrice Loko of Nantes they had a bitter-sweet taste.

He had just lost his baby son, and when he went out to play his wife had said: "Score for him."

So he says it was his son he thought about when he got those goals: two in Dakar for France "A" against Senegal, one more when he went on near the end in Lisbon against Sporting, for France.

Loko is 22, a modest young man who says he sees himself as no challenge to the incumbent French striking pair, Eric Cantona and Jean-Pierre Papin. But with Caen's brilliant Xavier Gravelaine, he constitutes hope for the future. He has now spent seven years at Nantes, and says he would in essence like to stay there and win a European trophy with them.

Team work, he thinks, has been their secret, and he agrees that success could be a threat, causing young players to think not about Nantes but about clubs with thoughts of buying them.

Loko says that as an attacker he did not think much about scoring goals. His chief concern was making them for others. Then gradually he realised that it was important for a forward to score them, as well. This season he has been doing so.

He insists he still has everything to prove, and thinks that being a substitute for the full national team is just where he ought to be. Would that such altruistic thoughts inhabited the minds of all French players.

Instead, the tension, the near enmity, which seems to exist between the French internationals of Marseille and Paris Saint-Germain has been if anything exacerbated by that bruising game between the clubs at Parc des Princes.

Basile Boli, the Marseille centre-back, bitterly recalls an episode from the match between France and Austria.

"The game begins, I get the ball, I pass it to Deschamps, who moves it on to Sauzee, and he puts Papin away.

"At that moment, I hear Sassus call over to Fournier 'Don't run, Lolo! It's not worth the bother. The Marseillais are playing among themselves!' I saw red. What a rotten attitude!"

No wonder poor Gerard Houllier, successor to Michel Platini, has often found things so hard in his first season as French chief.

Loko . . . goals with a bitter-sweet taste.

Meanwhile, it's fascinating to speculate on what might have happened had Grave-laine, the true revelation of the season, stayed at Nantes and played alongside Loko. It doesn't seem likely he will remain with Caen next season. The rich clubs are circling.

Gravelaine has a much less self-effacing character than Loko, to say the least. That probably helped him keep his head above water after a lot of early disappointments.

As a youngster, he listened at Nantes to the likes of the veteran Belgian international, Vercauteren. Now, at 24, he does not feel the need to listen to anybody.

Poor Gerard Gili always seems fated to have a hard time. When Marseille were in deep mid-season crisis and he no more than coach to the junior team, he came in and, with the wave of a wand, transformed everything, guiding the team to triumphs. But that wasn't enough for the ever-restless Bernard Tapie.

He is a pervasive presence at the club. Something with which Abedi Pele, who had to fight like mad all summer against Tapie's wish to prolong his contract, would thoroughly agree.

Gili's brilliant achievements still were not enough for Tapie, who brought in Franz Beckenbauer on a £1.6 million contract, only for Franz to fail embarrassingly, and Gili to go off to Bordeaux.

Gili . . . keeping calm.

There he caught another tartar in President Claude Bez. Things did not go well, the team faltered, the club collapsed, the smoke cleared, and lo and behold there was Gili in charge of Montpellier.

And still, you might say, in trouble, because it has not worked out. "I manage the team, he pays me," says Gili curtly of the club's main mover, the president, Louis Nicollin. They are not getting on. Gili is still precociously calm and collected, though he thinks he has learned a lot in these tumultuous years, becoming more effective.

He lives alone in Montpellier. His children, he says, were upset by the transition to Bordeaux. His three-year contract can be dissolved by common accord at the end of the first or second season.

Where things really seem to be going wrong, however, is between Gili and the club's general manager, Robert Nouzaret. Nicollin praised Nouzaret and says Gili must appreciate that Nouzaret stands in for him as president, because he cannot be there the whole time.

Nouzaret, says Nicollin, has no desire to be the team manager. Gili does not seem to be as sure.

Meanwhile, with an attack led by the powerful French international Fabrice Divert, who made his name at Caen, Montpellier have a reasonable enough team.

Will Gili stay? Who can tell?

ANDRE **DUCLOS**

RESULTS

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Monaco	24	14	6	4	36	14	34
Marseille	24	13	7	4	43	26	33
Paris SG	24	12	8	4	44	18	32
Nantes	24	12	8	4	39	21	32
Bordeaux	24	11	8	5	26	16	30
Auxerre	24	11	3	10	36	27	27
St Etienne	24	9	9	6	19	14	27
Strasbourg	24	7	12	5	35	34	26
Montpellier	24	9	7	8	24	23	25
Lyon	24	5	13	6	25	25	23
Sochaux	24	9	5	10	23	37	23
Toulouse	24	5	12	7	21	26	22
Metz	24	6	9	9	27	32	21
Lens	24	4	12	8	19	32	20
Caen	24	7	5	12	33	34	19
Valenciennes	24	5	9	10	27	34	19
Le Havre	24	6	7	11	24	35	19
Lille	24	4	9	11	15	33	17
Toulon	24	2	12	10	16	32	16
Nimes	24	2	11	11	21	40	15

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

NIMES 0
MONACO 1 (Klinsmann 36). **Att:** 11,024.

AUXERRE 1 (Prunier 64)
NANTES 1 (Loko 29). **Att:** 12,000.

PARIS SG 1 (Roche 86)
STRASBOURG 1 (Farina 66). **Att:** 27,000.

METZ 2 (Zitelli 11, Kubik 41 pen)
MARSEILLE 1 (Sauzee 78). **Att:** 15,000.

TOULON 0
BORDEAUX 0. **Att:** 4,000.

TOULOUSE 0
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 13,408.

LYON 3 (Garde 2, 38, Billong 58)
SOCHAUX 1 (Prat 55). **Att:** 13,711.

LILLE 0
MONTPELLIER 0. **Att:** 4,000.

VALENCIENNES 3 (Kovacs 13, 82, Gohel 17)
CAEN 2 (Gravelaine 42, Garcia 78). **Att:** 10,160.

LE HAVRE 0
LENS 1 (Sikora 43). **Att:** 7,061.

Divert . . . hat-trick.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

WEEKEND

MONACO 2 (Klinsmann 35, Perez 43)
LE HAVRE 0. **Att:** 4,500.

NANTES 2 (Ouedec 2,80)
NIMES 0. **Att:** 15,099.

CAEN 0
PARIS SG 2 (Weah 56, Sassus 86). **Att:** 7,867.

MARSEILLE 2 (Voller 3, 80)
LYON 1 (Billong 23). **Att:** 20,000.

BORDEAUX 1 (Zidane 57)
AUXERRE 0. **Att:** 25,177.

ST ETIENNE 0
LENS 0. **Att:** 14,976.

STRASBOURG 0
TOULOUSE 0. **Att:** 16,090.

MONTPELLIER 1 (Divert 49)
TOULON 1 (Eyraud 76 pen). **Att:** 6,000.

SOCHAUX 2 (Bazdarevic 43 pen, Henry 44)
METZ 0. **Att:** 1,800.

LILLE 1 (N'Diaye 46)
VALENCIENNES 2 (Fernier 4, Gohel 60). **Att:** 8,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

WEEKEND

LENS 0
MONACO 0. **Att:** 21,000.

PARIS SG 3 (Weah 15, Fournier 55, Simba 74)
LILLE 0. **Att:** 16,000.

LE HAVRE 2 (Gourouli 56, Rio 59)
NANTES 0. **Att:** 8,492.

AUXERRE 0
MARSEILLE 2 (Angloma 44, Boksic 82). **Att:** 17,000.

NIMES 0
BORDEAUX 0. **Att:** 8,657.

TOULON 0
ST ETIENNE 0. **Att:** 4,500.

VALENCIENNES 1 (Burruchaga 87)
MONTPELLIER 3 (Divert 65, 75, 85). **Att:** 10,912.

METZ 3 (Chaniot 49, Zitelli 66, Huysman 84)
STRASBOURG 0. **Att:** 10,480.

LYON 1 (Debbah 81)
CAEN 0. **Att:** 15,265.

TOULOUSE 1 (Ferrer 69)
SOCHAUX 0. **Att:** 6,221.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

WEEKEND

MONTPELLIER 0
MONACO 0. **Att:** 12,000.

MARSEILLE 6 (Voller 5, 40, Pabois 28 o.g., Sauzee 61, 79 pen, Dobrovolski 75)
NIMES 1 (Kachloul 16). **Att:** 23,032.

VALENCIENNES 1 (Burruchaga 36 pen)
PARIS SG 1 (Weah 45). **Att:** 14,683.

NANTES 0
TOULON 0. **Att:** 13,656.

BORDEAUX 0
LENS 0. **Att:** 12,937.

ST ETIENNE 1 (E. Mendy 84)
AUXERRE 0. **Att:** 23,084.

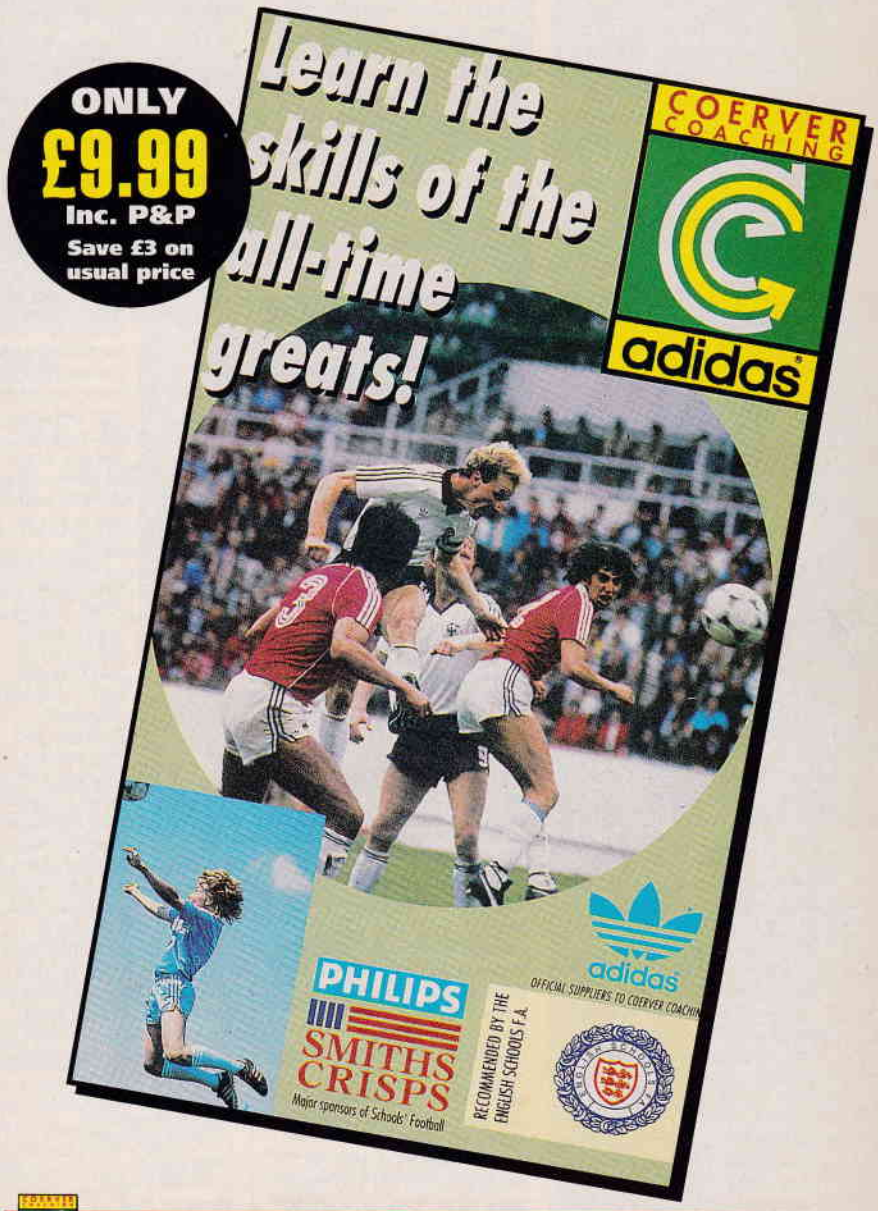
STRASBOURG 2 (Cobos 27) Leboeuf 65 pen)
LYON 1 (Debbah 86). **Att:** 12,411.

SOCHAUX 3 (Prat 53, 58, 73)
LE HAVRE 2 (Roux 48, Tiehi 85 pen). **Att:** 2,067.

LILLE 2 (Fichaux 15, N'Diaye 72)
TOULOUSE 2 (Ferrer 4, Bancarel 48). **Att:** 2,500.

CAEN 0
METZ 1 (Lang 33). **Att:** 6,793.

EXCLUSIVE COERVER VIDEO OFFER FOR WORLD SOCCER READERS



ONLY £9.99 Inc. P&P
Save £3 on usual price

ACTION PACKED SOCCER COACHING VIDEO

HAVE FUN WHILE IMPROVING YOUR SKILLS

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Enclose Cheque/PO made payable to: IPC Magazines Ltd.
Send to: Coerver Reader Offer, John Denton Services, PO Box 666, London E15 1DW Please allow 28 days for delivery

TALKING TO TONI

HIS name is Antonio Oliveira, but people call him Toni.

At Coimbra University, the traditional establishment of high studies in Portugal, he went for a degree in law, but after playing for Academica, as a student-footballer, he decided to follow a different course.

So he joined Benfica, and in 25 years with the Lisbon Eagles he has distinguished himself as a player, as a coach, as assistant-manager and now as manager. From all points of view, he has become part of the establishment. Sometimes one gets the impression that Toni lives at the Stadium of Light.

"No — I'm a family man," he says *"but then Benfica demands almost everything, and 80 per cent of my time is given to the club."*

Toni had some problems with players who had not done well in the latest match. I had seen one of them, Pacheco, outside the manager's office. But he had to wait.

"As you say, to be the football manager at Benfica is to be in the greatest job in Portuguese football, although I am not so sure if it carries the highest salary.

"The great problem is that you do not only have to manage the team as such, by deciding who must play or who mustn't and in which way should we approach any particular opposing side.

"You must manage human behaviour and show loyalty, tolerance, solidarity. And it is not always easy to show coherence in football."

People who follow Benfica — millions of them — are not happy with the recent successes of FC Porto both at national and at international level. It is like 40 years ago when Sporting Lisbon were winning everything. Benfica then had to revolutionise, call in a Brazilian "generalissimo" — Otto Gloria — to lead the team, and reform the whole international football structure.

"The situation is not the same. We do not have proper organisation for a great club like ours. We have very good players. But it is true that we have the whole country expecting glory from us.

"The history of this club has given tremendous happiness and some disappointments. That is always in the hearts and minds of our supporters. The past is always here. Benfica is not only Lisbon. Benfica is Portugal. Whatever happens here acquires a sort of a national repercussion."

Just a few moments off . . . Toni relaxes at home with his wife and family.

Since Otto Gloria's time Benfica have prided themselves in having the best managers. Gloria was succeeded by Bela Guttmann, and then came the Chilean, Fernando Riera.

Sven-Goran Eriksson, a Swede, came, left and came back again, only to return to Italy without having achieved anything. Tomislav Ivic was thought to be the man who could have achieved great things. Yet after only a few months he, too, had to go. And Toni, a product of the "House of Benfica", was given the responsibility.

"We are going through a period of transition. Benfica is not like an English football club and that is why the traditional structures are having to be re-assessed, so that new means of action can be set free and football can use all its resources.

"At this club we are active in a variety of sports, 22 in all, and they are all financed by football. Then the supporters demand that Benfica be champions in athletics, in table-tennis, in basketball, in handball, in volleyball — in any of the 22 sports.

"All this means our having to employ 400 people financially controlled by a budget whose size would be the envy of many a large company."

How can such a gigantic club be controlled, and where does the money come from?

"We have 80,000 registered fee-paying supporters. All of them are entitled to vote but only a minority do when the time comes for a new leadership to be elected. And this is because 90 per cent are only interested in being a 'socio' entitled to free entry to watch any of the 22 sports.

"The monthly fee payable by these 'socios' is very small but we know that they are part of the true people of Portugal and they are not rich. 'Socios' with 25 years of membership carry more weight and they are entitled to more votes than those who have just joined.

"The same applies in due proportion to all with 5, 10, 15 or 20 years of membership."

The Lisbon Eagles have a great past. Europe loves their red shirts and their spirit. How do they compete with such as Milan, Barcelona or Manchester United?

"All these clubs are wholly devoted to football and their finances are administered in terms of their needs to develop and expand the quality of their football teams. Our directors are looking into this matter very carefully.

"There are lots of ideas being discussed with a view to modernising the structure of this club and quite possibly many of those 22 sports will have to devise new ways to finance their activities within the club.

"But the rights of the 'socios' will not be touched, because nobody can see the future of this club without them. The club and the 'socios' are one."

Few people can forget the remarkable victory at Highbury just over a year ago. But then the team had nothing else to offer in Europe and what was supposed to have been a brilliant run and possible victory in the Champions' Cup came to nothing. What have you to say about that?

"To be frank, the game at Arsenal could have been lost. We faced trouble for a long time, in the first half especially. But when Isaias scored to make it 1-1, Arsenal became alarmed.

"As to the games that followed, it will always be easier for us to contend with anyone in a knock-out event rather than in a league."

Many people in Lisbon resented the way in which Eriksson managed the team. There is an undoubted atmosphere against the man. You worked with Eriksson and know all about him. So you defend him?

"He did all that he could. Maybe he does not have the qualities of a general, or prefers to look like a diplomat. That is not for me to say.

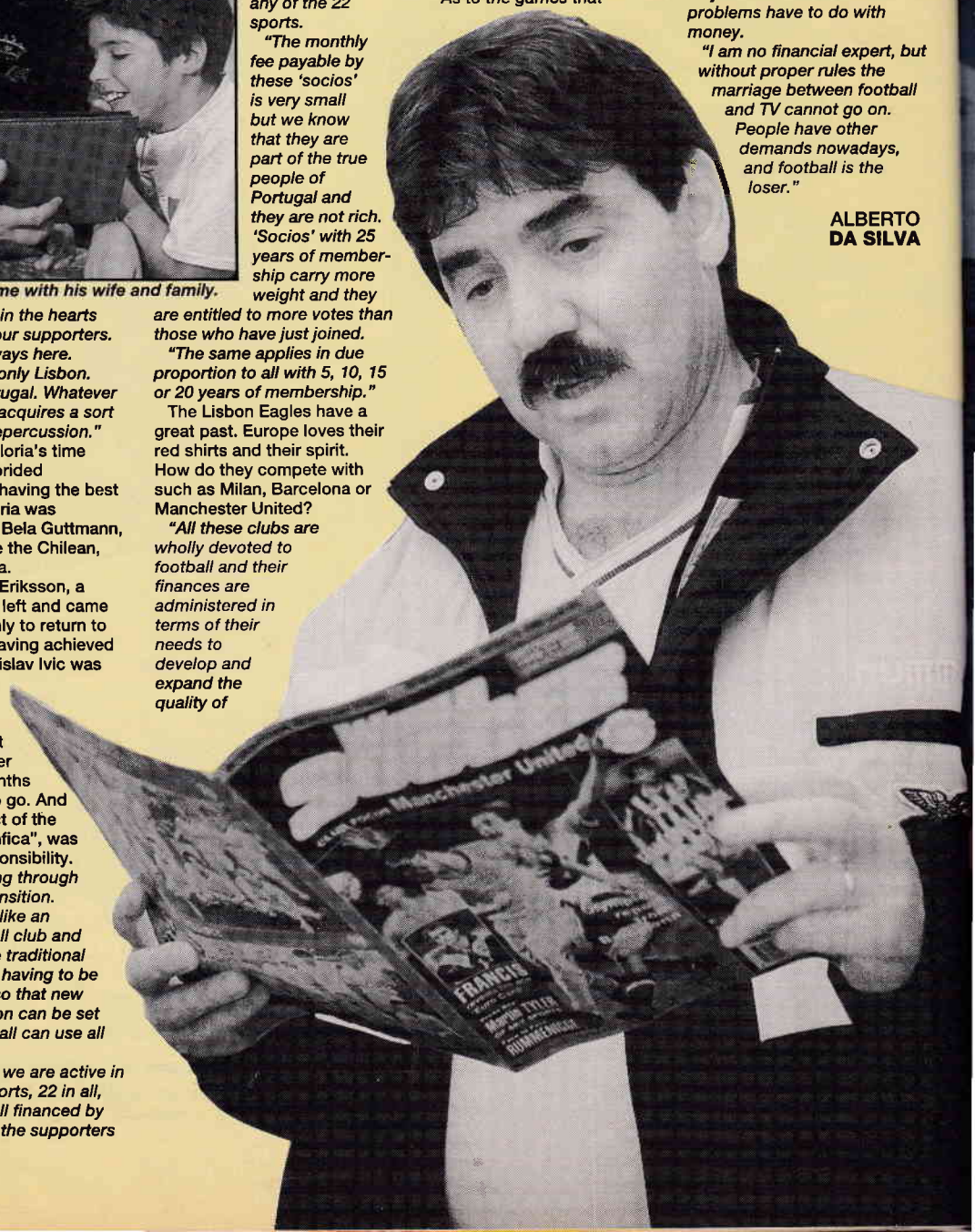
"Our relations were always excellent and I learnt quite a lot from him. I cannot comment on his accomplishments at Sampdoria, but the Italian League is very difficult."

What do you think of the increasing growth of television's coverage of football?

"Unfortunately, we now have two TV channels broadcasting football on Saturdays and Sundays and the public, already fearful of the violence that has erupted in Portuguese stadiums, elect to stay at home. All these TV problems have to do with money.

"I am no financial expert, but without proper rules the marriage between football and TV cannot go on. People have other demands nowadays, and football is the loser."

ALBERTO DA SILVA



TURKEY

Okan's unlucky break

VICTORY in the first leg of the Turkish Cup semi-final was marred for Galatasaray when midfielder Okan (right) broke a leg in two places.

Okan, only just 19, is one of the outstanding players in the country, and recently helped to win the European Youth Championship. Now he will not play again until next season.

Galatasaray beat Trabzonspor 3-0, and even though they face a harassing time in the return — Trabzon is notorious.for hostility to visiting teams — coach Feldkamp must be reasonably confident of a place in the final.

Besiktas beat Fenerbahce by the only goal in the other match, but all the semi-finalists retain thoughts of a double. Although Kocaelispor head the League table, the Cup hopefuls fill the next four places.

Kocaelispor have the top scorer in Saffet (16 goals) but dropped vital points in their last two away games, drawing against Kayserispor and Bakirkoy.

The fates seem to be against Fenerbahce. Ridvan is out for the rest of the season after yet another operation, his 13th, and Aykut (13 goals) has missed the last three matches through injury.

Besiktas struck scoring form away to Bakirkoy, winning 6-3, and are still on course for yet another title.

HASAN **CEMALI**

MALTA

Bunker brigade lose again

TOO GREAT an emphasis on defence cost Malta dearly in their World Cup qualifier against Portugal, who won with a second-half goal by Rui Aguas.

The Maltese rarely looked like conceding other goals — "It's very hard to get inside their bunker" said Portugal coach Carlos Queiroz — but they rarely looked like getting a goal for themselves.

The closest they went was when the captain, Raymond Vella (right), chipped the ball over keeper Vitor Baia, only for it to be cleared from the line.

Coach Pippo Psaila and his men were then left to contemplate difficult away matches against Scotland and Italy. With one point from their three games, two of them at home, their chances of bringing off a surprise qualification seem to have gone.

Vella had some consolation for the international non-success by helping his club, St. Andrews, up the table.

A 2-0 defeat of Kirkirkara and a 5-3 win over Rabat — in the best game of the programme to date — lifted the Saints to fifth.

Floriana's strong defence atoned for a moderate attack and put the club four points clear at the top.

Hamrun, Hibernians and Valletta were only a few goals apart in the next three places.

DOMENICO **AQUILINA**

ISRAEL

Uri out at 35

URI MALMILLIAN, one of Israel's top footballers in recent years, retired at 35.

Malmillian began with Betar in his home city, Jerusalem, and was a regular at 16.

In his 13 years with the club Betar won the Championship once and the Cup five times.

At 19 he became a national name when scoring an extra-time winner in the Cup final against Maccabi Tel Aviv . . . after missing a penalty.

In 1990 he was transferred to MTA, a move which some Betar fans still see as a betrayal. After his departure they were relegated, but have since gone up again.

In recent seasons Malmillian's appearances have been limited by various injuries, although he played a few games for MTA (last season's champions), Hapoel Beer Sheba and Hapoel Ktar Saba.

Malmillian scored 164 goals in 511 league games, plus 16 in 61 internationals, and during his 20-year career he was never sent off.

NADAV **YA'ACOBY**

GREECE

Marcello on the mark

THE Greek national team may include a Brazilian forward at some future stage.

He is 26-year-old Verintiano Marcello of Xanthi, whose scoring exploits have won him wide publicity. He has scored 16 goals so far, including four in an 8-2 win over Pierikos.

The Xanthi manager, Vasilis Bertos, said: "His mother recently came to Greece for a holiday, and while I was talking to her, I found out that she had been born in this country. That means her son is qualified to play for Greece."

Marcello has been in the country for three years, speaks the language fluently and wants to stay.

Despite Marcello's goals, Xanthi are still only in mid-table.

AEK slipped to second, having lost a seven-point lead. Coach Dusan Bayevic accused his players of "starting to destroy all you have accomplished in the past few years".

Olympiakos have been making up ground helped by a 1-0 win over AEK before a 30,000 crowd in Piraeus. Coach Oleg Blokhin said: "That was a good win but we must forget about it and treat all the remaining matches as local derby games.

"We also have Atletico Madrid to think about."

The clubs meet in the Cup-winners' Cup quarter-final this month.

Apollon are comfortably placed around halfway, but are struggling to survive finacially. Gates continue to drop and one recent match attracted only 73 paying customers.

LOU **ECONOMOPOULOS**

PORTUGAL

Porto struggle for power

FC PORTO are still struggling to become accepted.

They won the Champions' Cup and World Club Cup in 1987, have won the Championship five times in the last eight seasons and the Cup twice in the last five.

Despite all that — and they may well win the league title again this season — many people tend to ignore them.

A recent opinion poll, in a country where 88 per cent of the population confess to being football fans, showed only 19 per cent supporting Porto.

Benfica were easily the best-supported club with 40 per cent, and another 20 per cent favoured Sporting Lisbon.

The poll also revealed that most young people, women and working-class followers were Benfica fans.

At the time of the poll Porto headed the table by four points with Benfica second, on goal difference from Sporting. But poor Cup results must have caused some worries in Porto's camp.

Benfica beat Porto in a money-spinning Cup clash, drawing 1-1 away and then winning 2-0 at home . . . with an 80,000 crowd on a Wednesday afternoon. Paulo Futre, whose controversial move to Benfica is outlined elsewhere in this issue, was shown off to the crowd, heightening an already charged atmosphere.

Boavista, who won the Portuguese Cup last year, had earlier beaten city rivals Porto to win the Super Cup. Porto surprisingly lost 2-1 at home in the first leg, led 2-0 in the return with 10 minutes to go, but could only draw 2-2.

Boavista's Marlon Brandao scored the decisive goal.

ALBERTO **DA SILVA**

TABLES

CYPRUS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Omonia	16	11	4	1	54	20	36
Salamina	16	10	2	4	26	15	32
Apollon	15	9	4	2	39	17	31
Apoel	16	9	5	2	35	19	31
Aniorthosis	16	8	3	5	21	20	27
Paralimni	16	8	3	5	31	28	26
Ethnikos	16	8	2	6	31	23	25
Aris	16	5	4	7	20	32	19
Evagoras	15	5	2	8	23	30	17
AEL	15	4	3	8	22	25	15
EPA	16	3	5	8	23	37	14
Olympiakos	16	3	4	9	15	34	13
Pezoporikos	15	1	7	7	18	25	10
APOP	16	1	2	13	13	46	5

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	21	15	3	3	49	11	48
AEK	21	14	6	1	46	13	48
Olympiakos	21	13	5	3	40	16	45
OFI	21	13	4	4	28	15	43
Heraklis	21	11	5	5	34	25	38
Aris	21	9	4	8	26	22	31
PAOK	21	9	4	8	24	24	31
Larissa	21	7	7	7	18	20	28
Apollon	21	8	3	10	19	30	27
Xanthi	21	6	6	9	36	43	24
Doxa	21	6	6	9	23	39	24
Edessaikos	21	6	5	10	25	46	23
Panahaiki	21	5	7	9	23	29	22
Athinaikos	21	4	10	7	20	25	22
Kalamaria	21	3	9	9	17	31	18
Korinthos	21	3	9	9	19	36	18
Ionikos	21	3	6	12	16	29	15
Pierikos	21	2	6	13	17	44	12

MALTA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Floriana	10	8	2	0	19	6	18
Hamrun Spt.	10	7	0	3	28	13	14
Hibernians	11	6	2	3	26	18	14
Valletta	11	6	2	3	19	13	14
St. Andrews	11	4	4	3	26	17	12
Sliema Wand.	11	5	1	5	17	17	11
Birkirkara	11	3	2	6	14	21	8
Rabat Ajax	11	3	2	6	14	23	8
Melleha	11	2	1	8	7	24	5
St. George's	11	1	2	8	8	26	4

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kocaelispor	18	12	4	2	43	14	40
Fenerbahce	18	11	4	3	46	21	37
Galatasaray	18	11	4	3	36	14	37
Besiktas	18	10	7	1	38	18	37
Trabzonspor	18	9	7	2	34	18	34
Bursaspor	18	8	4	6	27	23	28
Ankaragucu	18	8	2	8	31	26	26
Altay	18	6	4	8	18	26	22
Sanyer	18	5	5	8	23	30	20
Bakirkoyspor	18	5	3	10	28	34	18
Genclerbirligi	18	4	6	8	22	34	18
Kayserispor	18	3	8	7	15	22	17
Aydinspor	18	4	5	9	13	31	17
Gaziantepspor	18	4	4	10	17	33	16
Karsiyaka	18	2	8	8	19	38	14
Konyaspor	18	1	7	10	20	48	10

LEAGUE OF WALES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Inter Cardiff	23	16	2	5	58	25	50
Cwmbran T	21	13	6	2	37	13	48
Aberystwyth T	20	14	1	5	47	25	46
Ebbw Vale	21	11	4	6	48	38	37
Bangor City	22	11	4	7	46	38	37
Haverfordwest	19	11	3	5	41	28	36
Conwy Utd	21	9	6	7	28	25	33
Holyweli Town	19	10	3	6	41	26	31
Llanelli	21	8	4	9	35	36	28
Connah's Quay	19	9	1	9	36	42	28
Briton Ferry	21	7	6	8	41	46	27
Afan Lido	21	6	6	9	35	39	24
Abergavenny	24	6	6	12	30	40	24
Porthmadog	22	4	10	8	27	32	22
Flint Town Utd	22	6	4	12	28	42	22
Newtown	23	5	7	11	35	53	22
Caersws	21	6	3	12	35	47	21
Maesteg Park	20	4	8	8	26	33	20
Mold Alex.	19	6	2	11	35	47	20
Llanidloes T	21	2	6	13	24	56	12

HOLLAND

Romario finds the faults, again

TALKING out loud directly after PSV's second League defeat in a row could have led to comments such as: "Typical Romario. The poor chap is trying to wipe away tears."

Stating publicly that he had received only one decent pass, and that his team-mates must ensure a good service, might have led to that kind of reaction . . . if that was all he said.

But Romario (above) said a lot more, and to many insiders he hit PSV's problems right on the head.

"Too many players can run around during games without trying too hard, because they know they are virtually guaranteed a place," he said.

"They just believe being known as a star player is enough. Things could change if they found themselves on the bench, or in the second team if they didn't go out there to fight .

"I understand football. A couple of years ago I told PSV they must buy two or three players because the team wasn't good enough in certain areas."

Watching a close race for the title on the final run-in during May and June is of course good for the public, but look at, for example, the difference between PSV and arch-rivals Ajax.

PSV have Romario, plus nine Dutch internationals, plus Jan Heintze (Denmark), Gheorghe Popescu (Rom-ania), Kalusha Bwalya (Zam-bia) and Thomas Thorninger (Denmark). But they are rarely seen as a *team!*

Ajax have seven Dutch internationals, plus Stefan Pettersson (Sweden) and John Hanssen (Denmark). Apart from Pettersson and Dennis Bergkamp, individual names do not stand out, but they are a *team!*

One of the biggest problems facing the top clubs in Holland is the lack of real competition right down the Dutch League. You can count on one hand your real challengers if you are an established table-topper.

PSV coach Hans Westerhof is very much aware of this and recognises the points Romario has made.

Westerhof says: "I understand how he feels, but it is for me and Frank Arnesen to put things right. Knowing where the problems lie is important so that we can work out a solution.

"Certainly PSV players know that they will be hit, and hit hard, if they don't give everything they've got and don't play with their heart.

"I've also been looking at my own coaching methods and the team tactics. I'm not going to tell Ajax what I'm doing, but I have changed some of my methods and introduced a few minor changes in tactics."

Shortly after signing a new contract that keeps him with PSV for at least one more season, 35-year-old defender Adri van Tiggelen has been made skipper in place of Gerald Vanenburg. That is not a coincidence.

Ajax are to introduce a new three-team event to replace their own tournament, traditionally played in the Amsterdam Olympic Stadium one week before the Dutch season begins.

The contenders are the only three clubs to win all three European tournaments — Ajax, Barcelona and Juventus.

ERIC **NICHOLLS**

Mayor causes an upset

DESCRIBING Football Association councillors as "those old gentlemen at Lancaster Gate" has gone on for many years.

But if soccer people really believe that, they should take a trip to Holland to look into the way games can be changed in relation to kick-off time, or even ground, and how "the old gentlemen" can walk out in a huff that was described by Dutch soccer folk as "childish".

Under Dutch law the Mayor is the Chief of Police, and he can send clubs — and the FA — crazy by changing a programme.

That's just what Rotterdam's Mayor Bram Peper did last month. Despite the fact that 15,000 tickets had been sold and the visitors had agreed the kick-off time. Peper told the Dutch FA that the World Cup game between Holland and Turkey could not be played during the evening of February 24 in the Feyenoord Stadium, but must be switched to the afternoon for "security reasons".

Feynood lost commission and the Dutch FA showed Peper what they thought about his decision by moving the game to Utrecht, as originally planned as an evening affair, with no objection from the Mayor of Utrecht.

FIFA and UEFA have asked the Dutch FA to examine the possibility of using PSV's stadium in Eindhoven for internationals, with safety and comfort playing a bigger part in their minds than capacity figures.

Either way Mayor Peper may have dealt the Feyenoord Stadium a final blow as the ground for Dutch international games.

The FA's Professional Football Committee walked out en bloc. Why? They objected to criticism from Dutch clubs about the committee's future plans for Dutch football, and refused to talk to the clubs!

ICELAND

Asgeir back to manage Fram

A LEGEND in Iceland's soccer history is to take over as Fram's manager.

Asgeir Sigurvinsson (above), ex-captain of German champions VfB Stuttgart and the Icelandic national team, also a former Bayern Munich and Standard Liege player, has been abroad since 1973.

He is surely the most famous Icelandic player ever, and was voted Player of the Year in Germany in 1984, when Stuttgart became champions.

Sigurvinsson replaces Petur Ormslev, who managed the team last year. Fram caused huge disappointment to their fans, missing a place in European competition for the first time in six years.

Fram have a long tradition for winning trophies, but since Asgeir Eliasson (manager 1985-1991) took over as the national manager, the club have not been as strong.

The supporters will demand better results next season under Sigurvinsson, thought to be the best-paid manager in the League.

Several new players have joined the club, including 18-year-old striker Helgi Sigurdsson, one of the leading scorers last season with Vikingur Reykjavik.

Fram will be among the favourites, along with the current champions, IA Akranes, and KR Reykjavik, second last season.

B.I. **HRAFNSSON**

REPUBLIC of IRELAND

All set for Dublin clash

THE World Cup qualifying game between the "two Irelands" at Lansdowne Road, on Wednesday March 31 will kick off at 1.45pm.

When they last met in Dublin, in October 1989, a noon start meant a trouble-free afternoon.

The Republic won 3-0 then and are favourites to continue their great run at the Ballsbridge venue, where they are unbeaten in competitive games under manager Jack Charlton.

Following impressive away draws against Denmark and Spain some Republic fans are already checking on long-lost relatives in the US, but there's a long way to go and qualification may not be decided until the return game in Belfast.

Meanwhile the FAI are to help finance floodlights at Lansdowne Road, owned by the Irish Rugby Football Union. Work starts this month and should be complete in time for the World Cup game against Spain in October.

The FAI are contracted to use Lansdowne Road for soccer internationals until 1996.

By then we should know if the new stadium planned for Clondalkin, on the outskirts of Dublin, will be complete.

Evidence of soccer growth in the Republic is shown by the fact that schools from 25 of the 26 counties will take part in this year's Mars schools soccer skills programme, with Leitrim the odd one out. This is the fourth year of the programme, and the number of schools has grown from 100 in 1990 to 348 this year.

Meanwhile, the FAI's International Club continue to raise much needed cash for soccer at all levels.

A recent donation of £30,000 brings the total to over £100,000.

Limerick surprisingly reached the top six play-off in the Premier Division of the Bord Gais League of Ireland. They won their last game in the first series to edge out St Patrick's Athletic on goal difference.

Paul McGee has changed clubs yet again. Former Republic international McGee, now 39, made the 34th move of his career when he rejoined Finn Harps last month.

He has played for "only" 14 clubs in six leagues, frequently switching between them.

Old Dublin rivals Shamrock Rovers and Bohemians will meet in the centenary Leinster Senior Cup Final on St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

SEAN **CREEDON**

AUSTRIA

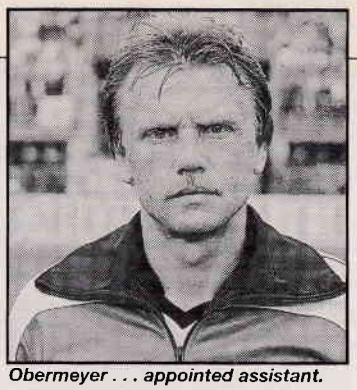
Tough for the three at the top

THE case of the new Austrian national team managers is still arousing controversy.

Dieter Constantini was the favourite to succeed the late Ernst Happel, and Herbert Prohaska's appointment was a big surprise.

Last summer Prohaska was called up by Happel to take charge of the Under-21 side, which put him in line to become the next national manager. But lack of success with the younger generation nearly cost him the chance.

The powerful Constantini, Happel's assistant in his last days, had three trump cards.



Obermeyer . . . appointed assistant.

He had coached the national squad, and was a hero after the celebrated 0-0 draw against world champions Germany in Nuremburg. Secondly, the players were on his side. Thirdly, the longer the OFB dithered, the better Constantini's chances appeared to be. But the omens were false.

President Beppo Mauthart decided, in effect, on a revolutionary move.

For the first time the Austrian national side will be supervised by a trio of experts. Next to Prohaska, Erich Obermayer (50 caps) was engaged as assistant, and Bruno Pezzey (83 caps) lately a newspaper columnist, will help out and coach the Under-21s.

These three are facing the mammoth task of leading Austria into the 1994 World Cup finals. The two key matches coming up against France (March 27) and Bulgaria April 14).

Prohaska is expected to win at least one of these matches to remain in charge — otherwise Constantini's comeback will happen sooner than forecast.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

SPO LIGHT ON MARC DEGRYSE

On a high note

Musical Marc leads Belgium's surge

ANDERLECHT and Belgium midfielder Marc Degryse plays snooker, plays the trumpet . . . and plays football so well that he is a key figure in both teams.

Degryse and the other "Diables Rouges" must be a good bet to make a transatlantic trip to the United States for the 1994 World Cup.

"Belgium might not possess a Marco Van Basten to provide a regular supply of goals, and apart from Enzo Scifo we have no big stars," says Degryse.

"But we play very well as a unit and know how to battle for results. We have made a wonderful start to our 1994 World Cup campaign, but we cannot afford to become complacent. We have yet to visit Romania and Wales, and the Welsh in particular usually give us a lot of problems.

"We lost a European Championship match 3-1 in Cardiff two years ago and even when we defeated them 2-0 last November in a World Cup tie, we had to work very hard."

Modesty prevents Degryse from mentioning that he was largely responsible for overcoming Welsh resistance in that game.

Degryse can reflect on a string of international victories, but at club level he has experienced mixed emotions this season. Even though Anderlecht's UEFA Cup loss to Paris SG was a bitter blow, they remain a force to be reckoned with in the Belgian League.

Indeed, they had their best first half to a season for 15 years — one defeat in 17 matches. Ironically, such consistency did not generate boundless enthusiasm among their fans. Many voiced dissatisfaction with the entertainment value of the team's performances, and catcalls punctuated many home games.

"Spectators have the right to criticise," says Degryse. "Early in the season we lost 5-2 to Waregem and our fans have probably not recovered.

"For a while we were unsettled by a serious injury to sweeper Marc Emmers. We made a couple of defensive reshuffles, but the blend was not right.

Finally, Michel De Wolf was moved from left-back to libero and since then we have looked much stronger. I think we are on course for another title."

Marc Degryse was born on September 4, 1965, in the Flemish town of Roeselare, and spent his youth as a striker for the VC Ardooie football team and a trumpeter in a local band.

The coexistence of music and soccer was not to last. Club Brugge signed him in 1979 and he abandoned the trumpet in favour of his football boots.

Shortly after his 18th birthday, he made a promising first-team debut in Club's 2-1 Belgian Cup win over Anderlecht, quickly caught the eye of national manager Guy Thys, and was included in a 23-man party to prepare for the 1984 European Championship.

But Thys had to settle on a final squad of 20 and Degryse was one of the three players discarded.

Although he eventually gained a first full cap in a 2-0 friendly defeat by Argentina in September 1984, he was to miss another important rendezvous in 1986. Degryse had hoped to take part in the Mexico World Cup finals, but once again Thys overlooked him.

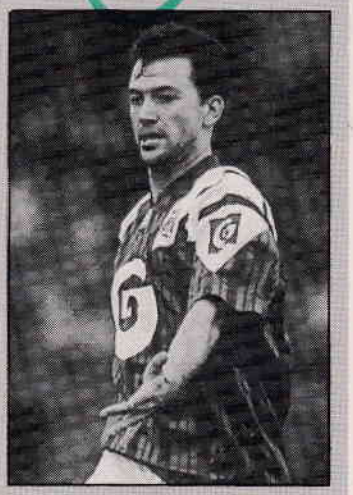
"My chances went when my club coach, Henk Houwaart, dropped me for a few games in the spring of 1986," Degryse recalls.

"He complained I was not putting in enough effort, and he was right. I was content to go through the motions on the pitch. At the time I was playing more snooker than football."

To Degryse's credit, he reacted to that disappointment by adopting a more serious approach, and this reaped substantial dividends.

He contributed 22 goals to Brugge's 1988 title triumph, and subsequently earned a recall for Belgium.

During the summer of 1989 Anderlecht signed him for a then domestic record fee of £1.5 million, but his days as an out-and-out striker were numbered. Coach Aad De Mos decided to use his technique and vision in a midfield context, and Degryse flourished in that role.



He continued to add to his catalogue of achievement. He was a losing finalist with Anderlecht in the 1990 Cup Winners' Cup, participated at Italia '90 and won a championship medal the following year.

To set the seal on a period of excellence, he was voted Belgium's Footballer of the Year for 1991.

NICK **BIDWELL**

PRO-FILE

MARC DEGRYSE
ANDERLECHT AND BELGIUM

Born: September 4, 1965, in Roeselare.

Previous clubs: VC Ardooie, Club Brugge.

Senior debut: September 1983 for Club Brugge v Anderlecht (Belgian Cup).

International debut: September 1984 v Argentina.

International caps: 42 (13 goals).

HONOURS
Belgian championship: 1987-88 (with Club Brugge), 1990-91 (with Anderlecht).
Belgian Cup: 1985-6 (with Club Brugge).
Belgian Footballer of the Year: 1991.

TABLES

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Anderlecht	21	16	1	4	50	17	36
Standard	22	14	4	4	47	28	32
Waregem	22	12	5	5	59	29	29
Club Brugge	22	11	7	4	31	19	26
Gent	22	10	6	6	34	24	26
RWDM	22	8	5	9	33	26	25
Mechelen	22	11	8	3	34	25	25
Antwerp	22	10	9	3	38	36	23
Charleroi	22	9	8	5	35	32	23
Lierse	22	9	8	5	35	31	23
Beveren	22	9	8	5	27	28	23
Genk	21	6	7	8	23	20	20
Cercle	22	6	10	6	44	51	18
FC Liege	22	6	10	6	28	48	18
Ekeren	22	7	12	3	36	44	17
Boom	22	5	14	3	33	71	13
Lokeren	22	3	15	4	20	43	10
Lommel	22	2	17	3	21	56	7

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	19	14	2	3	47	15	30
Feyenoord	20	11	7	2	42	19	29
MVV	20	12	4	4	36	24	28
Ajax	18	11	5	2	50	13	27
Utrecht	20	9	4	4	30	21	25
Twente	18	9	5	4	34	16	23
Vitesse	19	7	8	4	30	17	22
Volendam	19	7	7	5	29	17	21
RKC	20	8	4	8	28	35	20
Willem II	19	6	6	7	18	20	18
Groningen	19	5	7	7	20	29	17
GA Eagles	20	6	5	9	25	38	17
Sparta	19	4	8	7	20	33	16
Cambuur	20	3	8	9	21	31	14
Roda JC	19	6	1	12	28	39	13
Fortuna Sittard	19	4	2	12	16	45	10
Den Bosch	20	2	6	12	16	46	10
SVV/Dordrecht	20	2	4	14	11	43	8

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Porto	20	15	3	2	39	11	33
Benfica	19	11	5	3	29	10	27
Sporting	20	10	7	3	31	15	27
Boavista	20	8	7	5	23	16	23
Belenenses	20	8	7	5	21	18	23
Maritimo	20	8	5	7	29	22	21
Farense	20	6	8	6	20	17	20
Salgueiros	19	6	8	5	19	22	20
Famalicao	20	6	8	6	17	22	20
Braga	20	8	3	9	20	19	19
Gil Vicente	20	7	5	8	20	26	19
Beira-Mar	20	5	8	7	12	20	18
Espinho	20	6	6	8	19	26	18
Estoril	20	5	7	8	22	29	17
Tirsense	20	4	7	9	12	18	15
Guimaraes	20	6	3	11	20	31	15
Pacos Ferreira	20	4	6	10	19	34	14
Chaves	20	2	5	13	18	34	9

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Linfield	21	15	2	4	34	6	47
Portadown	21	13	6	2	51	17	45
Distillery	21	13	1	7	38	27	40
Glenavon	21	12	3	6	36	21	39
Bangor	21	12	3	6	35	23	39
Crusaders	20	12	2	6	33	24	38
Glentoran	21	11	4	6	51	24	37
Ards	21	10	5	6	38	36	35
Ballymena	21	8	3	10	32	24	27
Carrick	21	8	2	11	35	49	26
Cliftonville	21	8	1	12	27	33	25
Larne	21	7	2	12	31	42	23
Omagh	21	5	5	11	28	43	20
Coleraine	20	4	1	15	19	41	13
Newry	21	3	3	15	21	58	12
Ballyclare	21	2	4	15	20	51	10

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bohemians	25	11	11	3	39	14	33
Cork City	25	13	6	6	39	28	32
Derry City	25	10	12	3	21	15	32
Shelbourne	25	1	8	6	44	25	30
Dundalk	25	6	13	6	25	20	29

Group B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Patrick's	25	5	15	5	21	21	25
Shamrock Rov	25	6	8	10	34	28	21
Sligo Rov	25	5	10	10	14	28	20
Drogheda	25	3	13	9	21	34	19
Bray Wand	25	3	11	11	15	36	17
Waterford	25	6	5	14	24	52	17

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Union	18	10	5	3	44	17	25
Avenir Beggen	17	9	6	2	32	16	24
Jeunesse Esch	18	10	4	4	31	16	24
Grevenmacher	18	7	7	4	32	20	21
Dudelange	18	6	6	6	19	22	18
Esch Fola	18	6	5	7	25	27	17
Spora	18	6	5	7	23	30	17
Red Boys	17	4	6	7	27	36	14
Aris Bonnevoie	18	4	5	9	27	35	13
Ettelbruck	18	1	3	14	11	52	5

LUXEMBOURG

Loss leaders

Luxembourg top the worst table

LUXEMBOURG'S national team have a European record, which they can still improve, not having won any of their last 67 full internationals.

Their last victory was in May 1980, 3-2 against South Korea in Medan.

Immediately after that match, Luxembourg started to establish two other European — and possible world — records as well, by losing 32 consecutive internationals and not scoring for nine games in a row.

Estonia still await a first win after 15 matches, since beating Lithuania in 1945, and San Marino have also lost all their 13 internationals so far.

But the Luxembourg run of non-success seems unlikely to be passed. They have gone close a few times — notably when Scotland visited the Grand Dukedom in 1987. They had to be satisfied with a goalless draw.

Luxembourg's visit to Belgium two years later, for a World Cup qualifier, was the most remarkable game during that long run without victory. Bruno Versavel gave Belgium an undeserved lead, with only four minutes remaining, but Guy Hellers from Standard Liege equalised two minutes later.

The Germans also had problems in 1990. Even though they were world champions. They took a 3-0 lead but were grateful to goalkeeper Bodo Illgner for ensuring a 3-2 victory.

After Luxembourg, Cyprus have the longest list of games without winning, 38 in a row. After beating Luxembourg 1-0 in 1984, they did not win until last summer, 2-0 against the Faroes. That started a series of three consecutive triumphs, which included 3-2 away to Greece and 3-0 at home to Malta.

Norway are serious opposition now, but they have had difficulty several times. They did not win any of their first 27 full internationals, until beating Denmark 3-1 in 1919. The previous year the Danes thrashed Norway 12-0!

Northern Ireland did not win on 21 occasions between 1947 and 1953.

With the creation of more small countries, nations such as Albania, Malta or Cyprus have more chances to win.

The same goes for San Marino . . . and even Luxembourg.

The longest runs without victory
(up to January 1, 1993)

Luxembourg	67	(1980-*)
Cyprus	38	(1984-92)
Malta	29	(1988-91)
Norway	27	(1908-18)
Albania	25	(1984-91)
Finland	24	(1939-49)
Northern Ireland	21	(1947-53)
Eire	19	(1968-71)
Turkey	17	(1989-92)
Iceland	17	(1977-80)
Bulgaria	16	(1977-78)
Switzerland	16	(1928-30)
Sweden	15	(1920-22)
Estonia	15	(1945-*)
Denmark	14	(1969-71)
Belgium	13	(1933-35)
Lithuania	13	(1936-39)
Portugal	13	(1948-53)
San Marino	13	(1986-*)

* = *still continuing*

PERRY **MENEXIS**

SWITZERLAND

A costly trip to keep in

THE Swiss national side, proudly topping their World Cup qualifying group and on course to reach their first major finals since 1966, spent ten days in Hong Kong preparing for the fixtures ahead.

The Swiss took part in the Carlsberg Cup and played two matches to keep in trim during their long winter break.

Manager Roy Hodgson took 18 players and nine members of the technical and administrative staff.

Unfortunately the three top strikers, Stephane Chapuisat, Adrian Knup (above) and Kubilay Turkyilmaz, who are contracted to foreign clubs, had to stay in Europe.

Injured defender Dominque Herr was missing, too.

Hodgson was disappointed over their absence, but it gave him the opportunity to try some new candidates. The SFV (FA) estimate the costs of the expedition at £9,000.

The players did not get any bonuses, but next to the daily pay of £50 they were on a starting bonus of £100 each.

Normally a win bonus for an official friendly international is £1,000.

The league season is due to resume with the championship play-off phase on February 28. The biggest threats to the surprise leaders, Young Boys of Bern, are Servette and title-holders Sion.

Servette's Brazilian, Anderson da Silva is the League's top scorer with 14 goals in 21 games, and could be the key figure in their quest for a 16th title.

The manager, former Belgian international defender Michel Renquin, has an efficient mixture of ambitious young players and old-established pros, and is confident that Young Boys can be overtaken.

Sion's boss, former Swiss international Jean-Paul Brigger, is banking on his team's collective strength. Brigger, 35, is in his first season in Sion.

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

SWEDEN

Andersson's nightmare

SWEDISH international forward Kennet Andersson's 1992 was a long, horrendous nightmare.

He was a victim of internal unrest at his Belgian club, Mechelen, and was unable to play or train properly for months. He claims that he was not paid his wages by the club, who won the Cup-winners' Cup in 1988.

Anderrson is now back in Sweden, playing on loan for IFK Norrkoping. One cannot blame the big Swede for feeling bitter at the way he was handled in Belgium.

Mechelen signed him from IFK Gothenburg in 1991 for around £1 million. Or then-president John Cordier signed him.

Last year Cordier left Mechelen, taking with him his hefty financial support. All of a sudden, Mechelen found out that Andersson had become a burden on their wage bill. They could have sold him, but nobody seemed sure whether the fee should go to the "owner" of the player, Cordier, or to the club.

Andersson was left in limbo.

"At first, I was dropped from the team," he says.

"Then I was told that I couldn't train with them. I was forced to kick about with a youth team, with kids fresh from their schoolwork.

"Mechelen were playing a war of nerves, slinging dirt my way whenever they had a chance."

Andersson is not the first foreign-based Swedish pro who has had difficulties in getting his salary paid. In the 1980s, Ulf Eriksson underwent similar problems in Greece with Aris Salonika, while more recently striker Hans Eskilsson had a long enforced lay-off because of a wrangle over lapses in payments by Portugal's Sporting Lisbon.

Andersson . . . a victim of unrest.

Andersson, helped by a Swedish sports lawyer, took the matter to FIFA, and Mechelen have now been ordered to pay £20,000 in back payments.

By next summer, he should be able to move to another club.

"I have lost my playing rhythm and my place in the national team because of this," he laments.

"But now I will concentrate wholly on getting back on my feet with Norrkoping. I'm hungry for action, but one thing is for sure: I've had enough of Mechelen."

PENTTI **HIETANEN**

NORWAY

Strandli's dream comes true

FRANK STRANDLI achieved his ambition in making his debut for Leeds United, and scoring.

Strandli, the FK Start striker, who signed for Leeds — last season's Football League champions in England — had been waitinf for a work permit to come through.

When it did, manager Howard Wilkinson gave Strandli a substitute's role against Middlesbrough, then sent him on just in time to convert a cross from Gary Speed.

This was a timely response to the critics complaining about the import of "cheap" Norwegian players. Since Einar Aas scored for Nottingham Forest in 1981, only nine other goals have been scored by Norwegians in England.

Strandli appreciates that he has a long way to go, but says: "I'm still only 21 and at Leeds I'll be able to develop my skill. The game here is much faster than at home, and that should mean more chances to score."

Stig Inge Bjornebye had an unhappy start at Liverpool, but now seems to have settled down in a new, midfield role.

BY SIGURD **ODEGAARD**

YUGOSLAVIA

Clubs quit Serbian FA

FOOTBALL In Yugoslavia, struggling to keep going despite civil war, has now been affected by a dispute between top clubs and the ruling body.

The Serbian FA president Nemanja Stankovic had been nominated for the role of Yugoslav FA president. The three most powerful Yugoslav clubs, Red Star, Partizan and Vojvodina, opposed the plan, but only a small Bosnian club, Borac, supported them.

The big three, enraged at the decision, decided to quit the Serbian FA saying that they were being forced to play too many matches, with a consequent effect on quality.

The clubs also were disenchanted at having to pay an extra five per cent levy on transfer fees.

Partizan ended the first half of the Yugoslav championship, now restricted to Serbia and Montenegro, with a record 32 points out of 36. Red Star previously held the record with 28 from 34.

Yugoslav soccer lost one of its most prominent figures — Alexsander Timanic. He helped his country finish third in the 1930 World Cup, scoring in a memorable 2-1 win over Brazil, and later managed the national team.

BULGARIA

All change between Dinci and Dino

CHANGING the staff when things are not going well may be one answer, but it does not always work.

Take CSKA and Botev Plovdiv. The former trail Levski by six points as the second half of the season gets under way, while the latter, one of the most successful clubs from outside Sofia in recent times, ring the changes.

Their sponsor, Italian business man Paolo Dinci, did not let the grass grow under his feet or that of his employees. His first act on taking over two years ago was to sack coach Dinko Dermentiev and install Petar Zehtinski.

At the beginning of the current season he recalled "Dino" after dismissing Zehtinski. The club then found a new sponsor, as Dinci "had proved too indecisive", six weeks later, the two coaches found themselves going in opposite directions again!

The next solution? Sack the president, which was what the club's annual general meeting did. Petar Baldaev and his No. 2, Viden Apostolov, had to go.

The Bank of Plovdiv now look to be in charge and have ensured that a former international, Kostadin Kostadinov (above), has the job of technical director, there is no president as such, and Dermentiev is back as manager.

He also will be responsible for scouting and youth development at the coaching centre in a region which has a good reputation for cultivating local talent. But Botev plan to spend money on star players, as well as locals, in an attempt to match the Sofia giants.

Meanwhile in the capital CSKA are signing up some star performers, of the past. Planen Markov, formerly of Metz and Grenoble, and Georgi Dimitrov (St Etienne), are returning home to beef up the technical staff, while Yugoslav international Boban Babunski has been bought from Vardar of Skopje to seal the centre of the defence.

Up front CSKA also have recruited Bojidar Iskrenov, from, of all clubs, Levski. Babunski and Iskrenov had the opportunity to make their mark in the warm-up games in Cyprus and Malaysia, where CSKA decided to prepare their campaign to catch up the six points on Levski.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

CZECH REPUBLIC

A restart in the basement

THE SPLIT is complete politically though not yet on the football front where the "All Czecho-Slovak" league's last season will be completed over the coming four months.

Then that will be that, after some 72 years since the territory escaped from beneath Austria's cloak.

Sparta lead and must be favourites for the last title. They begin the "spring half" with a home game against Hradec Kralove, one of the clubs who probably will be able to continue in top football due to the inevitable re-organisation when the Premier, though it may not be so called, is set up for 1993-94.

The first day also features a Prague derby between the clubs in the basement, Dukla and Bohemians, while Slavia, who have suffered from having to stage games elsewhere in Prague while Eden is being refurbished, trek to Dunajska Streda.

Whether next season will generate more interest when such as Slavia visit relative minnows such as Dmovice remains to be seen, but Second Division leaders in the current Czech League, Zizkov, certainly will be packing in the crowds a stone's throw from the main station in Prague.

Viktoria Zizkov is a name from the distant past in Czech football, but massive sponsorship has put the club back on the map and they narrowly lead the Second Division aspirants.

On the international front there is apparently — contrary to the position in Slovakia — no discussion as to who will become Czech, as opposed to Czecho-Slovak, national coach when the World Cup campaign ends.

That will be either after the match with Belgium in Brussels on November 17 or some seven months later if the combined team qualify.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

SLOVAKIA

Venglos is favourite

WHO will be national coach when the Slovaks have their own set-up and start playing as a sovereign state in 1994?

Joe Venglos (above), currently in charge of Fenerbahce, must be favourite with or without the glowing references provided by Aston Villa's Doug Ellis.

Jan Kocian, a former Footballer of the Year whose career has been ended by injury, could be in line as assistant.

There doubtless will be other, Slovak, contenders — perhaps Macala's deputy, Lesicky, formerly coach at Nitra, with more experience than Kocian, younger than Venglos, and one who has remained at home. Watch this space!

Slovan, champions and likely top challengers to Sparta for the last title, go in to the reverse fixtures with a visit to nearby Nitra, sixth after the first 15 games.

The management decided on distant parts for the winter warm-up, training and playing in Chile. They began with a 3-1 win over Santiago Wanderers and drew 1-1 with Deportes Cobreloa.

Slovan's real test may not come until the final day of the season, when Sparta are the guests.

ROMANIA

Rapid on the move

MONEY is the root of all evil, and probably of football too.

This is the case in Romania, when clubs try to bridge the winter gap by keeping players in form.

Tours may not be cheap even if hosts provide hospitality and perhaps some gate money, but this did not prevent the surprise team of autumn 1992, Rapid, from going on tour in Egypt and France, with another to Indonesia also arranged.

This was an opportunity to parade a new signing from Steaua, Stefan Iovan (above). His old club have signed two defenders, Csik from Timisoara and Tufan from Farul Constanta.

The only absentee, midfielder Ilie Dumitrescu, was away with the national squad in Latin America — a costly exercise in time, effort and resources, but designed to keep the players in trim for the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers.

Western sponsors have been losing interest in Romanian football. Inter Sibiu, Poli Timisoara and Sportul Studentesc have been told by their Italian sponsors that support is being withdrawn.

Investors are being put off by the economic instability in the country, and poor performances in Europe do not help.

TABLES

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Partizani	17	10	5	2	31	14	25
Besa	17	9	5	3	23	12	23
Vllaznia	17	9	3	5	26	13	21
Teuta	17	9	3	5	18	13	21
Dinamo	17	8	4	4	22	19	20
Albpetrol	17	7	6	4	23	21	20
Elbasani	17	6	6	5	18	15	18
Tirana	17	5	6	6	19	16	16
Laci	17	6	4	7	12	16	16
Apolonia	17	4	5	5	24	26	15
Sopoti	17	5	4	8	20	25	14
Tomori	17	6	2	9	17	30	14
Kastrioti	17	4	5	8	15	18	13
Lushnja	17	4	4	9	13	23	12
Pogradeci	17	4	3	10	14	22	11
Flamurtari	17	2	7	8	10	22	11

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Levski	15	12	2	1	44	16	26
CSKA	15	8	7	3	29	12	20
Lok. Plovdiv	15	8	3	7	31	13	19
Lok. Sofia	15	6	7	2	29	20	19
Etar	15	7	5	3	15	10	19
Botev	15	6	5	4	22	18	17
Chernomorets	15	5	5	5	17	16	15
Lok. GO	15	4	7	4	16	18	15
Spartak Varna	15	5	4	6	18	25	14
Beroe	15	4	5	6	16	20	13
Pirin	15	4	5	6	13	20	13
Dobrudzha	15	5	2	8	19	29	12
Slavia	15	7	3	8	19	29	11
Yantra	15	3	7	8	12	30	10
Sliven	15	7	1	10	15	24	9
Khaskovo	15	3	2	10	16	31	8

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vac FC	15	11	1	3	27	13	23
Ferencvaros	15	10	2	3	23	11	22
Kispest-Honved	15	9	3	3	24	15	21
Vasas	15	6	6	3	19	15	18
Videoton	14	7	3	4	24	17	17
Bekescsaba	15	5	6	4	20	18	16
MTK	15	5	5	5	25	19	15
Diosgyor	15	5	5	5	18	21	15
Csepel	15	5	4	6	17	18	14
BVSC-Novep	15	5	3	7	14	17	13
Pecs MSC	15	5	2	8	16	20	12
Siofok	15	5	2	8	15	21	12
Gyor Raba ETO	15	3	6	6	13	19	12
Ujpest TE	14	2	7	5	16	20	11
Veszprem	15	3	3	9	15	30	9
Nyiregyhaza	15	2	4	9	9	21	8

ROMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua	16	14	1	1	46	9	29
Dinamo	16	12	3	1	41	9	27
Univ. Craiova	16	8	3	5	28	21	19
Gloria Bistrita	16	8	3	5	21	14	19
Univ. Cluj	16	9	1	6	17	16	19
Rapid Bucharest	16	7	4	5	22	16	18
Sportul Student.	16	7	4	5	25	22	18
Otelul Galati	16	7	4	5	19	17	18
Elect. Craiova	16	7	3	6	13	13	17
FC Inter Sibiu	16	6	3	7	19	23	15
Pol. Timisoara	16	4	6	6	15	26	14
FC Pioiesti	16	6	1	9	24	23	13
Dacia Un. Braila	16	4	4	8	14	20	12
Farul Constanta	16	4	3	9	20	33	11
Progresul	16	3	5	8	16	29	11
Selenica Bacau	16	4	3	9	9	25	11
FC Brasov	16	4	2	10	11	22	10
CSM Resita	16	2	3	11	14	36	7

SWITZERLAND

Autumn championship final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Young Boys	22	11	6	5	44	30	28
Servette	22	10	7	5	32	18	27
Sion	22	8	10	4	28	21	26
Lausanne	22	7	10	5	28	21	24
Aarau	22	9	6	7	30	34	24
Zurich	22	8	7	7	21	22	23
Neuchatel Xamax	22	6	10	6	30	26	22
Lugano	22	7	8	7	29	28	22
Grasshopper	22	5	11	6	27	27	21
St. Gallen	22	4	10	8	21	28	18
Chiasso	22	5	6	11	15	26	16
Bulle	22	4	5	13	18	42	13

The top eight clubs advance to the championship phase starting in March after the winter break. The bottom four compete in relegation/promotion play-offs with leading second division teams.

AUSTRIA

Autumn championship final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria Salzburg	22	11	7	4	45	27	29
Wacker Innsbruck	22	10	8	4	45	22	28
Austria Vienna	22	12	4	6	47	25	28
Sportclub	22	11	5	6	31	33	27
Rapid	22	9	8	5	34	26	26
Admira Wacker	22	11	3	8	47	23	25
St Polten	22	6	10	6	34	37	22
Vorwaerts Steyr	22	8	6	8	30	34	22
VfB Modling	22	8	3	11	39	41	19
LASK	22	4	6	12	21	46	14
Stahl Linz	22	3	6	13	19	43	12
Sturm Graz	22	3	6	13	23	49	12

Kirin Cup problems for Jenei

HUNGARY were left wondering about the availability of most of their foreign-based players for the triangular Kirin Cup tournament against Japan and the United States in Japan this month.

Lajos Detari and Kalman Kovacs, scoring vital goals for their relegation-threatened teams, Ancona and Valenciennes respectively, as well as Jozsef Szalma (Fortuna Sittard) and Emil Lorincz (RWDM) were confirmed as starters by Tamas Emsberger, chief of international relations for the Hungarian FA.

But he was still waiting for replies from Jozsef Kiprich (Feyenoord, right), Zsolt Petry (Gent), Florian Urban (Waregem), Ferenc Meszaros (Lokeren) and Zsolt Limperger (Burgos).

"We want to solve this problem amicably with the clubs, without having to go through FIFA," Emsberger said.

Sandor Berzi, the federation's general secretary, emphasised that any football nation in the world would be happy to accept an invitation to such a tournament.

While financial compensation may be a consolation, the release of the best players for the matches (against Japan in Fukuoka on March 7 and the US in Nagoya on March 10) will aid the World Cup effort, due to resume on March 31 with a home tie against Greece.

The Japanese had warned the Hungarians that their financial guarantee for taking part would be reduced by four-fifths if fewer than three foreign-based players took part.

They are concerned that Hungary's first visit since victory in the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo should not jeopardise their own attempts to increase Japanese football prestige.

Even if Hungary were to show a credit balance financially from having

lost up to three foreign-based players, that plus point must be set against the disruption to manager Jenei's plans.

He spoke recently of the players not progressing, of his not seeing as much of the foreign-based men as he would like. Yet he remains optimistic that the future can be spectacular.

The Japanese expedition was preceded by the first two rounds of the championship's spring season.

The major change in the programme, compared with previous years, is the unwise, expedient decision to introduce a two-leg final to the Hungarian Cup, on May 19 and June 2.

Sandor Bacsl, the Ujpest forward, joined Vasas-Smirnoff for about £20,000, the only notable move during the winter break.

Kispest-Honved, who paid a lightning visit to England for a friendly with non-league Woking last month, losing 2-1, will be the danger team now that Jozsef Duro and Ferenc Orosz can give their championship challenge greater impetus.

Vasas are the dark horse most likely to challenge Vac FC-Samsung, Ferencvaros, Kispest and Videoton.

BRIAN **O'SULLIVAN**

POLAND

A long wait for action

WITH Polish domestic football sleeping its long winter sleep, there is opportunity for reflection on another poor European campaign.

And there is not much to look forward to until late April, when San Marino are due in Poland for what should be a straight two points in World Cup Group Two.

A goalless draw in a friendly in Israel during the break only emphasised the major problem — scoring, even against weak opposition.

While Strejlau wrestles with his problems, league action finally resumes, with Lech travelling to Wroclaw to take on Slask and Gornik Zabrze playing hosts to Katowice in a coalfield derby.

BOB **VAUGHAN**

ALBANIA

Bilali double

TWO goals by Ferdinand Bilali enabled Elbasani to win the Super Cup.

The match between the Albanian Cup-winners, Elbasani, and the champions, Vllaznia, was level 1-1 after 90 minutes but ended 3-2 after extra time. Jakupi scored the other goal for the winners, and Kotri and Dedja (penalty) replied for Vllaznia.

Partizani beat Dinamo 5-4 on penalties to reach this season's Cup final. Albpetrol and Pogradeci meet in the other semi-final.

The Partizani squad now includes Ylli Shehu, back in action after a knee injury. He is the man who could have brought his club a £1,000,000 fee after some brilliant performances in the 1990 World Cup qualifying series.

Fiorentina wanted to take him to Italy, but the government of the day refused to sanction the move.

GEZIM **NUSHI**

ROY **KITSON** rounds up the state of play in the **former Soviet Republics**

Kairat still show the flag

AS EXPECTED, the "standard-bearer" of KAZAKHSTAN football in the former USSR Supreme League, Kairat Alma-Ata, won the Kazakhstan Championship.

Kairat, built up an apparently unassailable lead in the early stages of the 14-team play-off, then were chased right to the wire.

In a tense finish SKIF-Arsenal of Chimkent and Traktor Pavlodar ended one point behind the winners, with Ekibastyzets a further two behind.

The leading scorer was Kogai of Kaiser Kzyl-Orda, with 24 goals in the two phases. Midfielder Sergei Volgin of Kairat Alma-Ata, who had returned after a spell with Metallurg Zaparozhe in Russia, was player of the year.

DEFENDER Andrei Zygmantovich's return from Dutch team Groningen was a major factor in helping Minsk Dinamo to a commanding lead after the first half of the **BYELORUS** championship.

They were unbeaten after 16 games, and led Byelarus Minsk by seven points. Dinamo had 30 points from 16 games, and there seems no doubt that they will retain the championship. But they were taken apart by Moscow Spartak in the first CIS Champions' Cup final, losing 8-0!

The good news is that — apart from in the capital, Minsk — attendances are on the up, but the bad news is that there is still a long way to go before facilities in many stadiums reach an acceptable standard to allow European matches to take place.

The general standard of play has been helped by the return of experienced campaigners such as Zygmantovich — Player of the Year for 1992 — from abroad.

These include Sergei Gotsmanov, Igor Gurinovich, Yuri Antonovich and Viktor Sokol, while there has been plenty of young talent on view.

Byelarus Minsk have impressed under manager Ivan Shchekin, and the young team formed the nucleus of the Olympic squad (manager Ivan Savostikov). The Olympic selection beat Moldavia 1-0 and drew 0-0 with Ukraine, while the national team drew 1-1 with Ukraine in Minsk.

THE second championship of **MOLDAVIA** has reached its half-way stage, and the leaders are last season's champions, Zimbrul, one of five clubs from Kishinev.

Zimbrul have only lost one of their 15 games, scoring 38 goals. Most of the team play either for the Moldavian national team or for the Under-21s.

Crowds in the capital average around 1,000, while in other towns 300 to 500 spectators are the norm. Even the important clash between old rivals Tiligul and Zimbrul attracted only 600.

Second-placed Budzhak (Komrat) lost one of the best players in the country, Alexandrov, when he failed to return from a pre-season trip with the national squad. Alexandrov is now plying his trade with Ansar in Lebanon.

Budzhak were dealt another blow when manager Sergei Dubrovin and some leading players left for Tiligul before the championship began.

Tiligul are only in fourth place, while new boss Vladim Tsinkler has formed an excellent young squad at Budzhak, who are equal second with Moldova.

The League resumes on March 21.

WHEN Pakhtakor Taskent and Neftchi Fergana finished equal with 51 points from 24 games, everyone expected a play-off to decide the championship of **UZBEKISTAN.**

But the committee in charge of Neftchi refused to play, and when Pakhtakor also refused, the association had little choice but to declare the championship shared.

Under manager Inoyatov, Pakhtakor concentrated almost exclusively on an all-out attacking policy, and 94 goals were scored in 32 matches. Their 18-year-old forward Kechinov (24 goals) was the League's leading scorer.

Pakhtakor's defence leaked, however, and Neftchi conceded only 14 goals to Pakhtakor's 40.

The key match was played just before the final day in Fergana. A draw would have sufficed for Pakhtakor to make sure of the title, but Neftchi won 2-0. Both teams then won their last home games.

The young army players of FKA Pakhtakor-79 impressed with their abilities even though they finished 11th. Under popular manager Vyacheslav Soloviev this young team could hold the key to the future success of soccer in the republic.

Some of the players are sons of those lost in a 1979 air crash, such as Kachenov, An and Ashirov.

ALGA BISHKEK were convincing winners of the **KIRGISTAN** championship in the former Soviet Central Asian republic.

They finished six points ahead of Dostuk Sokoluk and won the Cup as well, defeating Alai Osh 2-1.

Sargeev of Dostuk scored 26 of his side's 63 goals, Abdurakhmanov of Semeetei Kyzlyl hit 20 out of 40, and Kainazorov of Namys (a club representing the agricultural trade unions) scored 17 out of 38.

Vitali Kobzar, Alga's midfield playmaker was Player of the Year, but manager Boris Podkorytov probably will have to rebuild next season. As a result of Alga's success, two players, Zakirov and Adzhiev, have been invited to join Bulgarian First Division team Minor Pernik.

THE first champions of **TURKMENISTAN,** Kopetdag Ashkhabad, recorded an astonishing 151 goals in 28 games, and conceded only eight. Nearest rivals Nebitchi finished seven points behind.

Kopetdag manager Bairam Durdyev gathered together a side who won 27 games and lost only one. The leading scorer in League matches was 35-year-old Sergei Kazankov with 41 out of 69 for eighth-placed TSKhT Ashkhabad. Attendances were very poor, but there were problems with stadium facilities.

THE championship of **TADZHIKISTAN,** due to start last September, has been postponed indefinitely due to civil unrest. Pamir Dushanbe, who formerly played in the Soviet Supreme League, won the 1992 event.

ENGLAND fly to the World Youth Cup in Australia without credibility as serious contenders. That, warns FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter, is the way their challenge will be judged by the 15 other finalists after a domestic squabble over squad selection.

WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE FIFA/COCA-COLA CUP

ENGLAND? No Chan

Exciting prospect . . . Tottenham striker Nick Barmby.

Clubs make life har

FIFA, understandably, wants everyone present to provide their best team. The order has gone out from FIFA House in Zurich to the various federations that they have every right — indeed, are expected — to bring along the best possible team. English clubs, of course, as ever, have generally taken the short-term view.

The domestic season is moving towards a climax and the long-term development of the player means less than the short-term three weeks in March.

FA spokesman Mike Wilmore says: "Normal FIFA rules do apply regarding the release of players and we wrote to clubs at the end of last year spelling out the selection criteria. However we have told clubs that we will limit selection to one player currently in the first team."

These include, most notably, Tottenham's Nick Barmby — probably the season's most exciting new prospect — Sheffield Wednesday's Chris Bart-Williams, Newcastle's Steve Watson, Middlesbrough's Jamie Pollock and Leicester's Julian Joachim.

But Blatter is not impressed by self-regulation. He told me: "Reaching the finals is a great opportunity to give your best young players unique experience from which they can only benefit — for the good of their clubs and their country in the years ahead. Just take one example from the finals back in Mexico in 1983: Marco Van Basten.

"Any country who do not send their best team are saying they are not serious about winning it. It's a pity because FIFA has done all it can to try to help. We have made it clear that the clubs must release their young players for the federations.

"We expect a very high level of competition. You need only look at the countries who have qualified to appreciate that."

Not that Portugal, World Youth Cup winners in Saudi Arabia in 1989 and then again in Lisbon in 1991, will arrive in the best possible shape after

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

©UEFA 1992

92-93

CUP-WINNERS' CUP & UEFA CUP

All you need to know about this season's Euro Cups

Presented **FREE** with WORLD SOCCER

CONTENTS

The history of the Champions' Cup
2-3

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
©UEFA 1992

Rangers
4

Brugge
5

Marseille
6

CSKA
7

Champions League, Cup–winners' Cup, and UEFA Cup fixtures
8-9

Milan
10

Porto
11

PSV
12

Gothenburg
13

Results, scorers, and fixture previews
14-15

© IPC Magazines

THE HISTORY OF

THE dream of a European club competition had existed since the 1920s.

In the late 1920s the nations of central Europe launched the appropriately-named Mitropa Cup (Mittel Europa = Central Europe). In the late 1940s the nations of Latin Europe organised the popular, end-of-season Latin Cup between the seasonal champions of Italy, Spain, Portugal and France.

Less than a year after the foundation of UEFA in 1954, serious proposals to launch a European Cup were published by the French daily sports newspaper, *L'Equipe*.

The Editor, Gabriel Hanot, a former French international full-back, invited representatives of 18 leading European clubs to Paris to discuss launching an international knock-out cup competition the following season. UEFA then took over the competitive administration.

Entry was to be restricted season-on-season to the champion club of each country (though some anomalies can be noted in the early years). Teams would play each home and away with the aggregate winners proceeding to the next round.

Initially, teams level on aggregate after two matches replayed on neutral territory. In the late 1960s the away goals rule and subsequently penalty shoot-outs were introduced to obviate any need for fixture-complicating replays.

On September 4, 1955, Sporting Clube of Portugal drew 3-3 with Partizan of Yugoslavia in Lisbon in the opening game.

Four days later the champions of Spain, Real Madrid, beat Servette of Switzerland 2-0 in Geneva. Madrid's first goal was scored by their captain, Miguel Munoz, who went on to receive the cup the following spring after Madrid beat Reims of France in Paris in the first final.

Munoz had become coach to Madrid by the time they won their fifth consecutive final — a legendary 7-3 victory over West Germany's Eintracht Frankfurt in 1960.

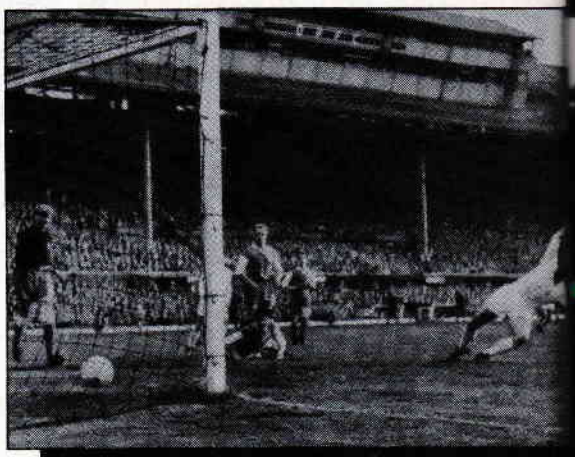
Latin Europe dominated the first decade of the Cup through Madrid, Benfica of Portugal then Milan and Internazionale of Italy. Celtic became first British winners in 1967 and Manchester United the first English winners in 1968.

The early 1970s were dominated by Dutch "total football" — first through Feyenoord then, more spectacularly, through the Ajax Amsterdam team inspired by Johan Cruyff. Ajax won the Cup three years in succession as did Germany's Bayern Munich, who succeeded them as European club champions.

Bayern drew their inspiration from the leadership of Franz Beckenbauer, with his revolutionary interpretation of the libero role, and the goals of Gerd Muller.

The next nation to dominate was England — through Liverpool, Nottingham Forest and Aston Villa between 1977 and 1984. But the increasing financial pressures on leading clubs went hand-in-hand with a lowering in the standard of football in the showpiece final itself. Two recent finals (in 1986 and then in 1991) went to penalty shoot-outs.

Last season the wheel turned full circle when Barcelona regained the Cup for Spain, beating Sampdoria of Genoa 1-0 in extra time at Wembley. It was the first time in years that the final had lived up to expectations.



1 . . . Real's Di Stefano gets his first against Frankfurt in 1960.

2 . . . Manchester United celebrate victory in 1968.

3 . . . Cruyff of Ajax in action against Panathinaikos in 1971.

4 . . . Liverpool's Callaghan and Smith with the Cup in 1977.

5 . . . Barcelona's Laudrup and Sampdoria's Vialli last season.

THE CHAMPIONS' CUP

What is UEFA?

UEFA is the governing body of European football.

The Union of European Football Associations was founded during the 1954 World Cup finals in Switzerland. Initially it encompassed 25 national federations; at the recent Gothenburg Congress UEFA approved the applications of the three Baltic states, lifting membership to a record 39 (with more to come following political consolidation in eastern Europe).

UEFA was founded to help focus the increasing demand for international competition and co-operation. Within five years of its foundation it had launched a European Championship for national teams as well as taking control of the prestigious European Cup for Champion Clubs.

In the international football pyramid UEFA is subservient only to the world governing body, FIFA.

Within its own structure, UEFA is responsible for 200,000 clubs, 750,000 teams, more than 20 million players and 400,000 referees. UEFA is the largest of the six regional confederations within FIFA and by far the richest.

The supreme body is the biennial Congress. Day-to-day decisions rest with the 12-member Executive Committee. The General Secretariat is in Berne and co-ordinates the work of 20 major committees and as many sub-committees.

In terms of the club competitions, the important bodies are the Committee of the UEFA Club Competitions, the Control and Disciplinary Committee and the Board of Appeal. Each club competition boasts its own sub-committee. Separate committees also work in the fields of Finance, Referees and Media.

All organisational responsibility for the Champions League belongs, ultimately, to UEFA.

LENNART JOHANSSON (left) of Sweden is the current president. The 62-year-old from Stockholm succeeded in 1990 on the retirement, after ill health, of Jacques Georges of France (now honorary president of UEFA). Johansson is the sixth president in UEFA's history after Ebbe Schwartz (1954-62), Gustav Wiederkehr (1962-72), Sandor Barcs (1972-73), Artemio Franchi (1973-83) and Jacques Georges (1983-90).

Johansson was president of the Swedish federation from 1983 to 1992 and was president of the Swedish organising committee of the 1992 European Championship.

His UEFA presidency means he is also a vice-president of FIFA and he presided over the Football 2000 task force set up by FIFA after the 1990 World Cup to study ideas for improving football as a spectacle. The one proposal already converted into Law was banning the goalkeeper from handling back-passes.

One of the first marks of his presidency of UEFA was the reintegration of English clubs into European competition after the suspension which followed the Heysel stadium disaster in 1985. His presidency has, of course, seen the launch of the Champions League and will be marked by a major expansion in UEFA's membership following the fragmentation of eastern Europe.

GERHARD AIGNER (left) is the general secretary. Aged 48, he comes from Regensburg (Germany) but has lived in Switzerland since 1968.

Aigner joined the UEFA administrative staff in 1969 and was appointed general secretary on the retirement of Hans Bangerter in 1988. Aigner is only the fourth UEFA general secretary after Henri Delaunay (1954-55), his son Pierre Delaunay (1956-59) and Bangerter (1959-88).

Why the format was changed

Lennart Johansson explains:

"THE Champions League is a revolutionary concept whose introduction will provide wide-ranging benefits for everyone. We experimented last season with the new formula and reaction was entirely positive.

"The Champions League allows the eight best clubs of the year in Europe to benefit from the certainty of three home matches. This is naturally very important for their budgets, providing a guaranteed amount plus extra income for every point gained in competition.

"In addition it allows UEFA to provide much-needed support for the rest of our membership. About 80 per cent of our membership is made up of small nations with small clubs. UEFA's share of the Champions League income means we can, at last, provide adequate financial compensation for those clubs who are always eliminated in the early rounds of all three club competitions.

"Not only that, but we can now pass on extra financial support to the youth competitions. This is not the same world or the same game as 30 or 40 years ago. UEFA has a responsibility to move with the times."

THE FINALS

1956	Real Madrid 4	Reims 3	Paris
1957	Real Madrid 2	Fiorentina 0	Madrid
1958	Real Madrid 3	Milan 2 (aet)	Brussels
1959	Real Madrid 2	Reims 0	Stuttgart
1960	Real Madrid 7	Eintracht Frankfurt 3	Glasgow
1961	Benfica 3	Barcelona 2	Bern
1962	Benfica 5	Real Madrid 3	Amsterdam
1963	Milan 2	Benfica 1	Wembley
1964	Internazionale 3	Real Madrid 1	Vienna
1965	Internazionale 1	Benfica 0	Milan
1966	Real Madrid 2	Partizan Belgrade 1	Brussels
1967	Celtic 2	Internazionale 1	Lisbon
1968	Manchester United 4	Benfica 1 (aet)	Wembley
1969	Milan 4	Ajax Amsterdam 1	Madrid
1970	Feyenoord 2	Celtic 1 (aet)	Milan
1971	Ajax 2	Panathinaikos 0	Wembley
1972	Ajax 2	Internazionale 0	Rotterdam
1973	Ajax 1	Juventus 0	Belgrade
1974	Bayern Munich 1	Atletico Madrid 1 (aet)	Brussels
Replay	Bayern Munich 4	Atletico Madrid 0	Brussels
1975	Bayern Munich 2	Leeds United 0	Paris
1976	Bayern Munich 1	Saint-Etienne 0	Glasgow
1977	Liverpool 3	Borussia Mg. 1	Rome
1978	Liverpool 1	Club Brugge 0	Wembley
1979	Nottingham Forest 1	Malmo 0	Munich
1980	Nottingham Forest 1	Hamburg 0	Madrid
1981	Liverpool 1	Real Madrid 0	Paris
1982	Aston Villa 1	Bayern Munich 0	Rotterdam
1983	Hamburg 1	Juventus 0	Athens
1984	Liverpool 1	Roma 1 (aet)	Rome
	Liverpool 4-2 on pens		
1985	Juventus 1	Liverpool 0	Brussels
1986	Steaua Bucharest 0	Barcelona 0 (aet)	Seville
	Steaua 2-0 on pens		
1987	FC Porto 2	Bayern Munich 1	Vienna
1988	PSV Eindhoven 0	Benfica 0 (aet)	Stuttgart
	PSV 6-5 on pens		
1989	Milan 4	Steaua Bucharest 0	Barcelona
1990	Milan 1	Benfica 0	Vienna
1991	Red Star Beograd 0	Marseille 0	Bari
	Red Star 5-3 on pens		
1992	Barcelona 1	Sampdoria 0 (aet)	Wembley

Rangers

RANGERS (Glasgow)

Founded: 1873
Stadium: ..... Ibrox (44,500)
Colours: ..... Light blue/white

HONOURS

Cup-winners' Cup: 1972
Scottish League: 42
Scottish Cup: 25

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Richard GOUGH. ***Scotland.*** Cosmopolitan player who was born in Sweden and brought up in South Africa. Gough made his name with Dundee United before being sold to the London club, Tottenham. He was highly popular with Spurs' fans but could not settle in London and joined Rangers for £1.5 million in October, 1987. He is secure in the tackle and dangerous in the air when he joins the attack for free kicks and corners. Hopes to be clear of nagging injuries, which have spoiled his season, by the time Champions League action restarts.

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
14	58	31	9	23	104	96

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Ally McCOIST. ***Scotland.*** McCoist is currently enjoying the most successful season of his career and is breaking all sorts of Scottish goal-scoring records. He began with St Johnstone, had two unsuccessful seasons in England with Sunderland but then exploded into form after joining Rangers in 1983. McCoist made his Scotland debut against Holland in 1986 and was Europe's top league goalscorer last year.

Striker Mark Hateley rises above team-mate Richard Gough and Leeds United's Chris Whyte (right).

Manager:
Walter SMITH

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Andy GORAM	G	13.04.64	Hibernian	Scotland
Ally MAXWELL	G	29.06.60	Clydebank, Motherwell	
John BROWN	D	26.01.62	Dundee	
Richard GOUGH	D	05.04.62	Tottenham	Scotland
Oleg KUZNETSOV	D	02.03.63	Kiev Dynamo	Sov/CIS
Dave McPHERSON	D	28.01.64	Heart of Midlothian	Scotland
David ROBERTSON	D	17.10.68	Aberdeen	Scotland
Gary STEVENS	D	27.03.63	Everton	England
Chris VINNICOMBE	D	20.10.70	Exeter (Eng)	
Neil MURRAY	D	21.02.73	—	
Steven PRESSLEY	D	11.10.73	—	
Scot NISBET	D	30.01.68	East Fife	
Ian DURRANT	M	29.10.66	—	Scotland
Dale GORDON	M	09.01.67	Norwich (Eng)	
Stuart McCALL	M	10.06.64	Bradford C, Everton	Scotland
Ian FERGUSON	M	13.05.67	St Mirren	Scotland
Alexei MIKHAILICHENKO	M	30.03.63	Kiev, Sampdoria	Sov/CIS
Trevor STEVEN	M	21.09.63	Everton, Marseille	England
David HAGEN	M	05.05.73	—	
Mark HATELEY	A	07.11.61	Milan, Monaco	England
Pieter HUISTRA	A	18.01.67	Twente Enschede	Holland
Ally McCOIST	A	24.09.62	Sunderland	Scotland
Gary McSWEGAN	A	24.09.70	—	
Sandy ROBERTSON	A	26.04.71	—	

Club Brugge

Brugge keeper Danny Verlinden clears from Marseille's Jocelyn Angloma.

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Danny VERLINDEN	G	15.08.63	Lierse	
Hans GALJE	G	21.02.57	Kortrijk, Waregem	
Jurgen BELPOIR	G	03.01.73	—	
Anthony FEUER	G	20.05.71	—	
Alex QUERTER	D	18.12.57	Lokeren, Cercle	
Pascal PLOVIE	D	07.05.65	Antwerp	Belgium
Rudy COSSEY	D	02.08.61	RWD Molenbeek	
Lazslo DISZTL	D	04.06.62	Videoton, Honved	Hungary
Pascal RENIER	D	03.08.71	Liege	
Vital BORKELMANS	D	01.06.63	Waregem	Belgium
Claude VERSPAILLE	D	21.07.64	Kortrijk	Belgium
S VAN DER HEYDEN	M	03.07.69	Beveren	Belgium
Marc SCHAESSENS	M	14.09.69	Beerschot, Standard	
Franky VAN DER ELST	M	30.04.61	RWD Molenbeek	Belgium
Lorenzo STAELENS	M	30.04.64	Kortrijk	Belgium
Jannes TANT	M	02.03.62	Blankenberge	
Dominque VAN MAELE	M	15.09.70	—	
Paul OKON	M	05.04.72	Melbourne	Australia
Peter CREVE	M	17.08.61	Ostend, Beveren	Belgium
Gert VERHEYEN	A	20.09.70	Lierse, Anderlecht	
Foeke BOOY	A	25.08.62	Groningen, Kortrijk	
Daniel AMOKACHI	A	20.12.72	Ranch Bees	Nigeria
Tomas DZIUBINSKI	A	08.08.68	Wisla Krakow	Poland

Club BRUGGE

Founded: 1891
Stadium: Olympiastadion (32,000)
Colours: Blue and black stripes/ black

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
8	37	18	5	14	59	45

HONOURS

Belgian League: 9
Belgian Cup: 5

Coach:
Hugo BROOS

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Franky VAN DER ELST. ***Belgium.*** Former Footballer of the Year who made his name with RWD Molenbeek and moved to Brugge nine years ago. Van der Elst gained his original opportunity in the Belgian national team at the 1984 European Championship and has been virtually immovable ever since. He was outstanding at the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy.

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Stephan VAN DER HEYDEN. ***Belgium.*** One of the most highly-rated new talents to emerge in Belgian football since joining Brugge two years ago after his original club, Beveren, had been relegated. Van der Heyden is a former youth international who made his senior debut for the Belgian national team in a 2-0 win over Hungary last year. Last season he was a decisive factor in Brugge's progress to the semi-finals of the Cup-winners' Cup.

Marseille

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Rudi VOLLER. ***Germany.*** Retired earlier this season from the German national team after scoring 45 goals in 85 internationals. Voller made his name with TSV 1860 Munich, joined Werder Bremen in 1982 and, in his first season, was league top scorer with 23 goals, Footballer of the Year and won his first cap against Northern Ireland. Voller was a World Cup runner-up in 1986 in Mexico and a World Cup-winner in Italy in 1990 — when Germany beat Argentina on familiar territory since he now played for Roma. Voller missed almost all the European Championship finals last summer after breaking his arm in the first match against the CIS. After the finals he left Roma to join Marseille.

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
6	33	19	8	6	68	30

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Pasca OLMETA	G	07.04.61	Toulon, Racing	
Fabien BARTHEZ	G	28.06.71	Toulouse	
Thomas VIDEAU	G	17.11.73	—	
Manuel AMOROS	D	01.02.62	Monaco	France
Bernard CASONI	D	04.09.61	Racing, Toulon	France
Eric DI MECO	D	07.09.63	Nancy, Martigues	France
Basile BOLI	D	02.01.67	Auxerre	France
Jean-Jacques EYDELIE	D	03.02.66	Tours, Nantes	
Jocelyn ANGLOMA	D	07.08.65	Lille, Paris S-G	France
Marcel DESAILLY	D	07.09.68	Nantes	
Jean-Christophe MARQUET	D	27.04.74	—	
Jean-Christophe THOMAS	M	16.10.64	Sochaux	
Jean-Philippe DURAND	M	11.11.60	Toulouse, Bordeaux	France
Didier DESCHAMPS	M	15.10.68	Nantes, Bordeaux	France
Franck SAUZEE	M	28.10.65	Sochaux, Monaco	France
Jean-Marc FERRERI	A	26.12.62	Bordeaux, Auxerre	France
Abedi Anew PELE	A	05.01.62	Mulhouse, Lille	Ghana
Rudi VOLLER	A	13.04.60	Werder Bremen, Roma	Germany
Alen BOKSIC	A	21.01.70	Hajduk Split	Croatia
Igor DOBROVOLSKI	A	02.08.67	Castellon, Servette	Sov-CIS

Olympique de MARSEILLE

Founded: 1899
Stadium: ..... Velodrome (46,00)
Colours: ..... White/white

HONOURS

French League: 8
French Cup: 10

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Manuel AMOROS. ***France.*** One of Europe's finest full-backs who has played nearly 90 times for France, a record. Amoros was born in Nimes of Spanish parents from Alicante. He joined Monaco at 13 and was also a promising young rugby player. After deciding to concentrate on football Amoros was a youthful star at the 1982 World Cup finals and helped France win the European Championship two years later. Amoros was a member of the French squad which finished third at the 1986 World Cup and then left Monaco for Marseille, whom he led to the Champions' Cup Final defeat by Red Star Belgrade in Bari in 1991.

Coach:
Raymond GOETHALS

Franck Sauzee scores from the spot against Club Brugge.

CSKA Moscow

CSKA Moscow

Founded: 1923
Stadium: ..... Dynamo (51,000)
Colours: ..... Red/white

HONOURS

Soviet/CIS League: 7
Soviet/CIS Cup: 4

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Alexander GUTEYEV	G	18.06.67	—	
Platon ZAKHARCHUK	G	10.09.72	—	
Dmitri BISTROV	D	30.07.67	—	
Alexei GUSHIN	D	21.10.71	—	
Vasili IVANOV	D	21.03.70	Zenit St Petersburg	
Sergei KOLOTOVKIN	D	28.09.65	—	Russia
Oleg MALIUKOV	D	30.10.65	—	
Vasili MINKO	D	08.08.71	Dynamo Branaul	
Denis MASHARIN	M	17.05.70	Zenit St Petersburg	
Yevgeni BUSHMANOV	M	02.11.71	—	
Alexei BOBROV	M	27.03.73	—	
Alexei PODUBSKI	M	13.06.72	—	
Lev MATEYEV	M	12.02.71	—	Russia
Yuri BAVYKIN	M	21.03.73	—	
Alexander GRISHIN	M	18.11.71	—	
Mikhail KOLESNIKOV	M	08.09.66	—	
Sergei KRUTOV	M	18.04.69	Vitesse (Hol)	
Valeri MASALITIN	M	27.09.66	Vitesse (Hol)	
Oleg SERGEYEV	A	29.03.68	Rotor Volgograd	Sov-CIS
Ilshat FAYZULIN	A	05.03.73	—	
Andrei ILIASKIN	A	04.03.68	—	

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Oleg SERGEYEV. *CIS.* International forward whose experience was a key element in the shock defeat of Barcelona. Sergeyev played three times for the former Soviet Union national team and was one of CSKA's top scorers in their 1991 Soviet Championship-winning season with nine goals in 30 league games. Sergeyev joined CSKA at the start of 1990 from Rotor Volgograd.

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
2	10	4	2	4	14	10

CSKA midfielder Mikhail Kolesnikov (right).

Coach:
Gennadi KOSTILEV

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Sergei KOLOTOVKIN. *Russia.* Defender who loves to press forward in support of attack and played a decisive role in the shock second round defeat of holders Barcelona. Kolotovkin began as a winger, moved back into midfield and can play both at left-back and in the centre of defence. His versatility promises to make him an important element of the newly-formed Russian national squad in the World Cup qualifiers.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

GROUP 1

Rangers

Brugge

Marseillle

CSKA

GROUP 2

Milan

Porto

PSV

Gothenburg

GROUP 1

Brugge ..... 1 v 1 .... CSKA Moscow
Rangers ..... 2 v 2 ..... Marseille
Marseille ..... 3 v 0 ..... Brugge
CSKA ..... 0 v 1 ..... Rangers
(in Bochum)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marseille	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Rangers	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Brugge	2	1	0	1	1	3	2
CSKA	2	0	0	2	0	2	0

GROUP 2

FC Porto ..... 2 v 2 ..... PSV Eindhoven
Milan ..... 4 v 0 ... IFK Gothenburg
IFK Gothenburg ..... 1 v 0 ..... FC Porto
PSV Eindhoven ..... 1 v 2 ..... Milan

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
IFK Gothenburg	2	1	0	1	1	4	2
PSV Eindhoven	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
FC Porto	2	0	1	1	2	3	1

FIXTURES TO PLAY

GROUP 1	March 3	GROUP 2
Brugge v Rangers		Porto v Milan
CSKA v Marseille		PSV v Gothenburg
	March 17	
Marseille v CSKA		Gothenburg v PSV
Rangers v Brugge		Milan v Porto
	April 7	
Marseille v Rangers		Gothenburg v Milan
CSKA v Brugge		PSV v Porto
	April 21	
Brugge v Marseille		Porto v Gothenburg
Rangers v CSKA		Milan v PSV

CHAMP
CUP-W
UEFA

Ibrox Stadium ho

Estadio

ONS
INERS

of Rangers.

GOTHENBURG
RANGERS
CSKA MOSCOW
MOSCOW SPARTAK
AJAX
FEYENOORD
BORUSSIA DORTMUND
CLUB BRUGGE
PSV EINDHOVEN
ANTWERP
PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN
SPARTA PRAGUE
AUXERRE

Stadio Delle Alpi home of Juventus.

JUVENTUS
MILAN
PARMA
STEAUA BUCHAREST
PORTO
MARSEILLE
REAL MADRID
ATLETICO MADRID
ROMA
BENFICA
OLYMPIAKOS

nteCalderon home of Atletico Madrid.

Quarter-finals

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Sparta Prague v Parma

Olympiakos v Atletico Madrid

Steaua Bucharest v Antwerp

Feyenoord v Moscow Spartak

1st leg: March 2/3/4, **2nd leg:** March 16/17/18.

Quarter-finals

UEFA CUP

Real Madrid v Paris Saint-Germain

AS Roma v Borussia Dortmund

Benfica v Juventus

Auxerre v Ajax

1st leg: March 2/3/4, **2nd leg:** March 16/17/18.

AC Milan

Associazione Calcio MILAN

Founded: 1899
Stadium: ... Stadio Meazza, San Siro (80,000)
Colours: Red and black stripes/ white

HONOURS

World Club Cup: .. 1969, 1989, 1990
Champions' Cup: . 1963, 1969, 1989, 1990
Cup-winners Cup: . 1968, 1973
Euro Supercup: 1989, 1990
Italian League: 12
Italian Cup: 4

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Jean-Pierre PAPIN. ***France.*** Cost Milan a French record £10 million last summer from French champions Marseille — whom he could yet meet in this season's competition. Papin was top scorer in the French league for the past four seasons and was the 1991 European Footballer of the Year (by *France Football* of Paris) and World Player of the Year (by *WORLD SOCCER* of London). Papin began with Valenciennes, moved to Belgium for a short — successful — spell with Brugge and then scored one of France's goals when they beat Belgium in the Third Place Play-off at the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico.

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Club	
Sebastiano ROSSI	G	20.07.64	Cesena	
Francesco ANTONIOLO	G	14.09.69	Cesena, Modena	
Carlo CUDICINI	G	06.09.73	—	
Franco BARESI	D	08.05.60	—	Italy
Alessandro COSTACURTA	D	24.04.66	—	Italy
Filippo GALLI	D	19.05.63	Pescara	
Enzo GAMBARO	D	23.03.66	Cesena, Parma	
Stefano NAVA	D	19.02.69	Reggiana, Parma	
Mauro TASSOTTI	D	19.01.60	Lazio	Italy
Paolo MALDINI	D	26.06.68	—	Italy
Demetrio ALBERTINI	M	23.08.71	Padova	Italy
Zvonimir BOBAN	M	08.10.68	Dinamo Zagreb, Bari	Croatia
Fernando DE NAPOLI	M	15.03.64	Avellino, Napoli	Italy
Roberto DONADONI	M	09.09.63	Atalanta	Italy
Stefano ERANIO	M	29.12.66	Geno	Italy
Alberigo EVANI	M	01.01.63	—	Italy
Ruud GULLIT	M	01.09.62	Feyenoord, PSV	Holland
Frank RIJKAARD	M	30.09.62	Ajax, Zaragoza	Holland
Dejan SAVICEVIC	M	15.09.66	Buducnost, Red Star	Yugoslavia
Gianluigi LENTINI	A	27.03.69	Ancona, Torino	Italy
Daniele MASSARO	A	23.05.61	Fiorentina, Roma	
Jean-Pierre PAPIN	A	05.11.63	Brugge, Marseille	France
Aldo SERENA	A	25.06.60	Torino, Juventus, Inter	Italy
Marco SIMONE	A	07.01.69	Como	
Marco VAN BASTEN	A	31.10.64	Ajax	Holland

Frank Rijkaard takes on two Gothenburg players (below).

Coach:
Fabio CAPELLO

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Marco VAN BASTEN. ***Holland.*** One of the greatest goal-scorers of the modern era as he proved with the 25 goals (including nine penalties) which made him top scorer in the Italian league last season. Van Basten was born in Utrecht and joined Ajax from amateur side Elinkwijk in 1981, making his debut at 17 as a substitute for Johan Cruyff. He first came to international attention in the 1983 World Youth Cup finals in Mexico. Then he scored 128 league goals for Ajax at a rate of almost one a game before being sold for £1.5 million in 1987 to Milan. Van Basten won the Cup-winners' Cup with Ajax and then the Champions' Cup twice with Milan. His partnership with fellow Dutchmen Ruud Gullit and Frank Rijkaard has been essential to Milan's domination of recent years. The current World and European Player of the Year.

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
12	74	44	13	17	168	71

FC Porto

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Jose SEMEDO. ***Portugal.*** A member of Porto's "three wise men" in midfield along with Jaime Magalhaes and veteran Andre. Semedo joined Porto from the club's youth sections in 1983. He missed the 1987 Champions' Cup victory over Bayern Munich in Vienna because of injury but returned to fitness in time to help share in the European Supercup victory over Ajax Amsterdam. Semedo is fit again after missing much of last season because of injury and was recently recalled to Portugal's World Cup squad.

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
VITOR Manuel Martins BAIA	G	15.10.69	—	Portugal
Vitor Sergio VALENTE	G	13.03.65	Oeiras	
JORGE Soares SILVA	G	13.01.72	Lamego	
JOAO Domingos PINTO I	D	21.11.61	Oliveira do Douro	Portugal
FERNANDO Manuel COUTO	D	02.08.69	Lourosa	Portugal
Lubomir VLK	D	21.07.64	Vitkovice	Czech
JOSE CARLOS Nascimento	D	19.03.65	(Bra)	
JORGE Paulo COSTA Almeida	D	14.10.71	Maritimo	
Fernando BANDEIRINHA	D	26.11.62	Varzim	Portugal
Joaquin da Silva NEVES	D	24.12.70	—	
RUI JORGE de Sousa	D	27.03.73	Rio Ave	
JAIME Fernandes MAGALHAES	M	10.07.62	—	Portugal
Jose Orlando SEMEDO	M	05.03.65	Esmoriz	Portugal
Antonio dos Santos ANDRE	M	01.07.70	Argoncilhe	Portugal
BINO (Manuel Macoes)	M	19.12.72	Rio Ave	
RUI FILIPE Tavares	M	08.03.68	Sporting Espinho	Portugal
ANTONIO CARLOS dos Santos	M	08.06.64	America (Mex)	(Bra)
Ion TIMOFTE	M	16.12.67	Poli Timisoara	Romania
Emil KOSTADINOV	A	12.08.67	CSKA Sofia	Bulgaria
DOMINGOS Jose Oliveira	A	02.01.69	—	Portugal
TONI (Nelson Gama)	A	02.08.72	—	Guinea-Bissau
PAULINHO (Joao P. Santos)	A	21.11.70	Rio Ave	
PAULINHO CESAR	A	28.09.63	Santos (Bra)	Brazil
TOZE (Antonio Ribeiro)	A	04.09.65	Penafiel	

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
10	43	22	7	14	86	47

FC PORTO

Founded: 1906
Stadium: ..... Das Antas (90,000)
Colours: ... Blue and white stripes/ blue

HONOURS

World Club Cup: 1987
Champions' Cup: 1987
European Supercup: 1987
Portuguese League: 12
Portuguse Cup: 7

Coach:
Carlos Aberto DA SILVA

Porto's defence stop Gothenburg's Stefan Rehn.

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

VITOR BAIA. ***Portugal.*** Former youth international who made his senior Portugal debut in a 1-0 win over the United States three years ago. Vitor Baia had made a big impression in the 1988-89 league season when Porto had to throw him in at the deep end because of injury to Poland's Mlynarczyk and a ban on veteran Portuguese international Ze Beto. Vitor Baia set a Portuguese record last term by going 1,192 minutes of league action without conceding a goal.

PSV Eindhoven

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

ROMARIO de Souza Faria. ***Brazil.*** Romario was born in Rio de Janeiro, began with the Olario club and then moved to giants Vasco da Gama at 14. He starred for the Brazilian side which finished runners-up to the Soviet Union at the 1988 Olympic Games and signed for PSV immediately afterwards. Romario was the Olympic tournament's top scorer with six goals, including a hat-trick against Australia, and was leading marksman also in his first season in Holland. Injuries have upset him in the past two seasons and reduced his effectiveness at the 1990 World Cup finals. Temperamental but hugely talented.

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Hans VAN BREUKELEN	G	04.10.56	Utrecht, Nottm. Forest	Holland
Wim DE RON	G	23.08.69	—	
Berry VAN AERLE	D	08.12.62	Antwerp	Holland
Ernest FABER	D	27.08.71	NEC, Sparta	
Mitchel VAN DER GAAG	D	22.10.71	NEC, Sparta	
Jan HEINTZE	D	17.08.63	—	Denmark
Jerry DE JONG	D	29.08.64	Telstar, Heerenveen	
Gheorghe POPESCU	D	09.10.67	Craiova, Steaua	Romania
Adri VAN TIGGELEN	D	16.06.57	Sparta, Anderlecht	Holland
Erwin KOEMAN	M	20.09.61	Groningen, Mechelen	Holland
Edward LINSKENS	M	06.11.68	—	
Arthur NUMAN	M	14.12.69	Twente Enschede	
Dick SCHREUDER	M	02.08.71	—	
Gerald VANENBURG	M	05.03.64	Ajax	Holland
Raymond BEERENS	M	14.02.72	—	
Kalusha BWALYA	A	16.08.63	Mufilura W, Cercle	Zambia
Juul ELLERMAN	A	07.10.65	Sparta	Holland
Peter HOEKSTRA	A	04.04.73	—	
Wim KIEFT	A	12.11.62	Ajax, Pisa, Torino, Bordeaux	Holland
ROMARIO De Souza Faria	A	29.01.66	Vasco da Gama	Brazil
Thomas THORNINGER	A	20.10.72	(Den)	

PSV EINDHOVEN

Founded: 1913
Stadium: Philips Stadion (27,000)
Colours: Red and white stripes/ white

HONOURS

Champions' Cup: 1988
UEFA Cup: 1978
Dutch League: 13
Dutch Cup: 7

Coach:
Hans WESTERHOF

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Hans VAN BREUKELEN. ***Holland.*** Retired from the Dutch national team after the finals of the European Championship but remains one of the most experienced and secure goalkeepers in the world. Van Breukelen began with Utrecht, developed his soccer education in England with Nottingham Forest then returned to Holland to win, with PSV, the remarkable treble of Champions' Cup, Dutch League title and Dutch Cup in 1988. Van Breukelen produced the decisive save in the Champions' Cup final against Benfica when he stopped Veloso's kick in the penalty shoot-out. A few weeks later Van Breukelen saved a penalty from Igor Belanov to help Holland to victory over the Soviet Union in the European Championship Final.

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
11	55	23	15	17	96	51

IFK Gothenburg

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Thomas RAVELLI. ***Sweden.*** His country's goalkeeper at last summer's European Championship finals on home ground in Sweden. Ravelli's father was an Austrian who emigrated to Sweden where Thomas and twin brother Andreas — an international midfielder — were born. Both became youth and under-21 internationals. Thomas was Footballer of the Year in 1981, the year he also made his debut for the national team while still with the osters Vaxjo club.

PLAYER	P	Birth	Previous Clubs	Intl
Thomas RAVELLI	G	13.08.59	Osters Vaxjo	Sweden
Dick LAST	G	02.03.69	Oddevold	
Magnus JOHANSSON	D	10.11.71	—	
Pontus KAMARK	D	05.04.69	Vasteras	Sweden
Joachim BJORKLUND	D	15.03.71	Brann Bergen (Nor)	
Mikael NILSSON	D	28.09.68	—	
Jonas OHLSSON	D	14.01.70	—	
Tore PEDERSEN	D	28.09.69	Fredrikstad	Norway
Ola SVENSSON	D	06.04.64	Halmstad	
Thomas ANDERSSON	M	21.11.70	—	
Peter ERIKSSON	M	18.05.69	—	
Hakan MILD	M	14.06.71	—	Sweden
Per Edmund MORDT	M	25.03.65	Valerengens	Norway
Stefan REHN	M	22.09.66	Djurgardens, Everton	Sweden
Zoran STOJCEVSKI	M	04.03.71	—	
Johnny EKSTROM	A	05.03.65	Empoli, Bayern, Cannes	Sweden
Kaj ESKELINEN	A	21.02.69	Vastra Frolunda	
Fredrik LEKSELL	A	16.02.71	—	
Stefan LINDQVIST	A	18.03.67	Halmstad, Xamax	Sweden
Patrik BENGTSSON	A	09.03.71	—	

IFK Gothenburg

Founded: 1904
Stadium: ..... Ullevi (52,000)
Colours: ..... Blue and white stripes/blue

HONOURS

UEFA Cup: 1982, 1987
Swedish League: 13
Swedish Cup: 3

Champions' Cup Record

APP	P	W	D	L	F	A
10	46	21	7	18	86	73

Coach:
Roger GUSTAVSSON

STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Johnny EKSTROM. ***Sweden.*** Has enjoyed a long career and a much-travelled one. Ekstrom began with IFK and earned international attention with brilliant Champions' Cup goals against Aberdeen and Barcelona in the spring of 1986. Italian club Empoli won the race to sign him but even his goals could not save them from relegation and Ekstrom played in Germany with Bayern Munich and in France with Cannes before returning home and playing in last summer's European Championship finals.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP PREVIEW

Feyenoord are clear favourites, in view of their impressive performances in Holland and their tradition of success in Europe.

Victory in the final would complete the set, for they won the Champions' Cup in 1970 and the UEFA Cup in 1974. **John Kelly** examines the situation.

SPARTA PRAGUE V PARMA

SPARTA PRAGUE surprised everybody last season by reaching the semi-finals of the Champions' Cup.

Dusan Uhrin's side have been hugely successful domestically in the last decade, and are now showing what they can do in Europe.

Czech internationals Vrabec, Sopko, Bilek, Vonasek and Nemec form the backbone of an attacking side, who were perhaps betrayed by their own exhuberance last season.

Parma are enjoying only their second season in European football and will be a stiff test for Sparta.

Coach Nevio Scala added to his squad this summer by signing Argentine Sergio Berti from River Plate and Colombian Faustino Asprilla from Nacional of Medellin. In defence, Belgian centre-back Georges Grun is very experienced and full-back Alberto Di Chiara is the first Parma player to be capped by Italy.

OLYMPIAKOS V ATLETICO MADRID

BOTH clubs have managerial problems. A run of poor results prompted the Greeks to fire Oleg Blokhin, and replace him with Andonis Georgiadis — who resigned after only 48 hours.

Atletico's poor form before, during and after Christmas means they are out the hunt for the title, and coach Luis Aragones quit.

This was partly due to the bust-up between him and Portuguese winger Paulo Futre — who subsequently returned to Benfica — and the bad results, culminating in a 5-0 home defeat by Barcelona in the Cup, Atletico's worst home result since 1951.

Rarely have opposing clubs gone into a European quarter-final in such a state of disarray. Much may depend on the mood of the players after the recent upheavals, but Atletico still appear too powerful.

STEAUA BUCHAREST V ANTWERP

STEAUA BUCHAREST currently lead the Romanian League and have the country's top scorer, Ilie Stan, who has 15 goals.

But in European competition, the Steaua players getting among the goals are strikers Alexandru Andrasi and Ion Vladoiu. The tie against AGF Aarhus demonstrated Steaua's determination. Having lost 3-2 in Denmark, coach Angel Jordanescu's side went a goal down at home and looked to be on their way out.

But two goals in the last nine minutes, by Cristescu and Vladoiu, levelled the aggregate score and Steaua progressed on the away goals rule.

Antwerp, lying eighth in the Belgian League, have made dogged progress to reach the last eight of the Cup-winners' Cup.

Leading Antwerp's quest is veteran striker Alex Czerniatynski, with four goals.

FEYENOORD V MOSCOW SPARTAK

FEYENOORD are enjoying their best season for years and currently head the Dutch League from PSV.

They reached the semi-finals of this competition last season and will be hoping to go one better this time round.

Former player Wim Jansen, now the coach, has done a fine job restoring Feyenoord's fortunes. Skipper Johnny Metgod's vast experience is a great asset to the side, which contains many promising youngsters such as Reggie Blinker and Gaston Taument.

But Spartak are not be underestimated. They proved that by beating Liverpool home and away in the last round, and further confirmed it by beating Minsk Dinamo 8-0 in the first CIS Champions' Cup final.

Spartak have half a dozen Russian internationals, and they all represented the CIS at Euro '92.

Alen Boksic.

CHAMPIONS' CUP 1992-93
LEADING SCORERS

	Player	Club
7	Romario	PSV Eindhoven
6	Van Basten	Milan
5	Boksic	Marseille
4	Kostadinov	FC Porto
	Tulio	Sion
3	Verheyen	Club Brugge
	Ellerman	PSV Eindhoven
	Rijkaard	Milan
	Hateley	Rangers
	Korsakov	CSKA Moscow
	Toni	FC Porto
	Schevchenko	Tavria Simferopol
	Astafiev	Skonto Riga

Ian Rush.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP 1992-93
LEADING SCORERS

	Player	Club
5	Rush	Liverpool
4	Czerniatinski	Antwerp
	Christensen	AGF Aarhus
	Rufer	Werder Bremen
	Nikiforov	Chernomorets
3	Vladoiu	Steaua Bucharest
	Piatnitsky	Moscow Spartak
	Kiprich	Feyenoord
	Basson	Hapoel Petah Tikvah
	Abfalterer	Admira Wacker

1992-93 CHAMPIONS' CUP

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
Kl Klaksvikar v Skonto Riga	1-3	0-3
Skonto Riga 6-1 on agg		
Olimpija Ljubljana v Norma Tallinn	3-0	2-0
Olimpija 5-0 on agg		
Shelbourne v Tavria Simferopol	0-0	1-2
Tavria 2-1 on agg		
Valletta v Maccabi Tel Aviv	1-2	0-1
Maccabi 3-1 on agg		

First round

	1st	2nd
AEK Athens v APOEL	1-1	2-2
AEK on away goals, agg: 3-3		
Barcelona v Viking Stavanger	1-0	0-0
Barcelona 1-0 on agg		
FK Austria v CSKA Sofia	3-1	2-3
FK Austria 5-4 on agg		
Glentoran v Marseille	0-5	0-3
Marseille 8-0 on agg		
IFK Gothenburg v Besiktas	2-0	1-2
IFK Gothenburg 3-2 on agg		
Kuusysi Lahti v Dinamo Bucharest	1-0	0-2
Dinamo 2-1 on agg (aet)		
Lech Poznan v Skonto Riga	2-0	0-0
Lech 2-0 on agg		
Maccabi Tel Aviv v Club Brugge	0-1	0-3
Brugge 4-0 on agg		
Milan v Olimpija Ljubljana	4-0	3-0
Milan 7-0 on agg		
PSV Eindhoven v Zhalgiris Vilnius	6-0	2-0
PSV 8-0 on agg		
Rangers v Lyngby	2-0	1-0
Rangers 3-0 on agg		
Sion v Tavria Simferopol	4-1	3-1
Sion 7-2 on agg		
Slovan Bratislava v Ferencvaros	4-1	0-0
Slovan 4-1 on agg		
VfB Stuttgart v Leeds Utd	3-0	1-4
Replay *(in Barcelona)*		
Leeds Utd v VfB Stuttgart		2-1
replay ordered because VfB fielded ineligible player		
Leeds qualify		
US Luxembourg v FC Porto	1-4	0-5
FC Porto 9-1 on agg		
Vikingur Reykjavik v CSKA Moscow	0-1	0-4
CSKA 5-2 on agg		

Second round

	1st	2nd
AEK Athens v PSV Eindhoven	1-0	0-3
PSV 3-1 on agg		
Club Brugge v FK Austria	2-0	1-3
Brugge on away goals, agg: 3-3		
CSKA Moscow v Barcelona	1-1	3-2
CSKA 4-3 on agg		
Dinamo Bucharest v Marseille	0-0	0-2
Marseille 2-0 on agg		
IFK Gothenburg v Lech Poznan	1-0	3-0
IFK Gothenburg 4-0 on agg		
Rangers v Leeds Utd	2-1	2-1
Rangers 4-2 on agg		
Sion v FC Porto	2-2	0-4
FC Porto 6-2 on agg		
Slovan Bratislava v Milan	0-1	0-4
Milan 5-0 on agg		

● *Teams at home in 1st leg listed first.*

1992-93 CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Preliminary round

	1st	2nd
Avenir Beggen v B36 Thorshavn	1-0	1-1
Avenir 2-1 on agg		
Maribor Branik v Hamrun Spartans	4-0	1-2
Maribor 5-2 on agg		
Stromsgodset v Hapoel Petah Tikva	0-2	0-2
Hapoel 4-0 on agg		
Vaduz v Chernomorets	0-5	1-7
Chernomorets 12-1 on agg		

First round

	1st	2nd
AIK Stockholm v AGF Aarhus	3-3	1-1
Aarhus on away goals, agg: 4-4		
Airdrie v Sparta Prague	0-1	1-2
Sparta 3-1 on agg		
Glenavon v Antwerp	1-1	1-1
Antwerp 3-1 on pens (aet), agg: 2-2		
Werder Bremen v Hannover	3-1	1-2
Bremen 4-3 on agg		
Bohemians (Dublin) v Steaua Bucharest	0-0	0-4
Steaua 4-0 on agg		
Maribor Branik v Atletico Madrid	0-3	1-6
Atletico 9-1 on agg		
Cardiff City v Admira Wacker	1-1	0-2
Admira 3-1 on agg		
Feyenoord v Hapoel Petah Tikva	1-0	1-2
Feyenoord on away goals, agg: 2-2		
Levski Sofia v Luzern	2-1	0-1
Luzern on away goals, agg: 2-2		
Liverpool v Apollon Limassol	6-1	2-1
Liverpool 8-2 on agg		
Miedz Legnica v Monaco	0-1	0-0
Monaco 1-0 on agg		
Moscow Spartak v Avenir Beggen	0-0	5-1
Spartak 5-1 on agg		
Parma v Ujpest TE	1-0	1-1
Parma 2-1 on agg		
Trabzonspor v TPs Turun	2-0	2-2
Trabzonspor 4-2 on agg		
Olympiakos v Chernomorets	0-1	3-0
Olympiakos 3-1 on agg		
Valur v Boavista	0-0	0-3
Boavista 3-0 on agg		

Second round

	1st	2nd
AGF Aarhus v Steaua Bucharest	3-2	1-2
Steaua on away goals, agg: 4-4		
Admira Wacker v Antwerp	2-4	4-3
Antwerp 7-6 on agg (aet)		
Luzern v Feyenoord	1-0	1-4
Feyenoord 4-2 on agg		
Monaco v Olympiakos	0-1	0-0
Olympiakos 1-0 on agg		
Parma v Boavista	0-0	2-0
Parma 2-0 on agg		
Moscow Spartak v Liverpool	4-2	2-0
Spartak 6-2 on agg		
Trabzonspor v Atletico Madrid	0-2	0-0
Atletico 2-0 on agg		
Werder Bremen v Sparta Prague	2-3	0-1
Sparta 4-2 on agg		

● *Teams at home in 1st leg listed first.*

UEFA CUP PREVIEW

Pick any one from eight . . . the UEFA Cup quarter-finals appear to be wide open. **John Kelly** sums up the situation.

REAL MADRID V PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN

REAL MADRID are only now recovering from the shock of handing last season's League title to Barcelona. Their form in the first half of this season was mixed, but now Real have started to look like themselves again. Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano scored a hat-trick in a 3-0 victory over Tenerife and then opened the scoring in a crucial 2-1 win over Barcelona.

Robert Prosinecki, free from injuries at last, is finally looking like the outstanding player he was when with Red Star Belgrade. Perhaps the tide has turned for both Real and Prosinecki.

Paris Saint-Germain, though, will be aiming to upset the Madrid giants again, as they did when beating Real to the signature of Rai in January.

Under Portuguese coach Artur Jorge, PSG have been transformed and players such as Valdo, Weah, Roche, Ricardo, Sassus and Calderaro will test Real to the limit.

AS ROMA V BORUSSIA DORTMUND

BORUSSIA DORTMUND recently have completed the signing of Germany's Matthias Sammer, from Inter, but he will not be eligible to play in this season's UEFA Cup.

Dortmund's most dangerous weapon is Swiss striker Stephane Chapuisat, ironically a target for Inter now that Sammer has left. Chapuisat has 11 goals at the halfway stage this term, and already has eight in this season's UEFA Cup.

Roma, under new coach Vujadin Boskov, have had their problems this season. At the halfway stage in the Serie A Roma were seventh from bottom, just one point clear of the relegation positions.

The expensive summer reorganisation at Roma has been a dismal failure. Sinisa Mihailjovic and Claudia Caniggia were brought in, but neither has been able to accomodate for Voller's loss.

BENFICA V JUVENTUS

BENFICA are battling with FC Porto and Sporting for the Portuguese title, and have greatly strengthened their hand with the signing of Paulo Futre, although he will play no part in Benfica's European campaign.

Benfica have 19 internationals on their books, including the Russian axis of Kulkov-Mostovoi-Yuran, and Swedish pair Magnusson and Schwarz. Brazilian Isaias leads their UEFA Cup quest with four goals, followed by Pacheco with three

Giovanni Trapattoni's side are not short of internationals either — 11 of them — but, unlike Benfica, have little chance of success in the league.

But Juventus have the players to test the very best sides in Europe: Vialli, Baggio and Casiraghi lead the front line, prompted from midfield by German international Moller. David Platt, a £6 million signing from Bari, cannot even get in the side!

AUXERRE V AJAX AMSTERDAM

AUXERRE'S reputation for nurturing young talent is well-known and well-deserved.

The current crop includes international goalkeeper Martini, 25-year-old skipper Prunier, internationals Cocard and Vahirua, young striker Baticle and Martins, a rare signing, from Brest.

Baticle is Auxerre's leading scorer this season with 10 league goals, and he is the UEFA Cup's leading scorer with eight.

Ajax though will be a difficult task. The UEFA Cup-holders have progressed to the quarter-finals with wins over Austria Salzburg, Guimaraes and Kaiserslautern.

The Amsterdammers remain a strong side and are well in contention for the Dutch League title, but retaining the UEFA Cup would be great consolation if the title proves to be beyond them.

Isaias.

Patrick Baticle.

UEFA CUP 1992-93
LEADING SCORERS

	Player	Club
8	Baticle	Auxerre
6	Witeczek	Kaiserslautern
	Fonseca	Napoli
5	Weah	Paris SG
	Isaias	Benfica
	Hierro	Real Madrid
	Yeboah	Eintracht Frankfurt
4	Pacheco	Benfica
	Chapuisat	Borussia Dortmund
	Vialli	Juventus
	Nilis	Anderlecht
	Goosens	Standard Liege
	M. Johansen	FC Copenhagen
	K. Warzycha	Panathinaikos

1992-93 UEFA CUP

First round

	1st	2nd
Caen v Zaragoza	3-2	0-2
Zaragoza 4-3 on agg		
Floriana v Borussia Dortmund	0-1	2-7
Dortmund 8-2 on agg		
Fram Reykjavik v Kaiserslautern	0-3	0-4
Kaiserslautern 7-0 on agg		
Hibernian v Anderlecht	2-2	1-1
Anderlecht on away goals, agg: 3-3		
Koln v Celtic	2-0	0-3
Celtic 3-2 on agg		
Neuchatel Xamax v Frem Copenhagen	2-2	1-4
Frem 6-3 on agg		
Austria Salzburg v Ajax	0-3	1-3
Ajax 6-1 on agg		
Benfica v Belvedur Izola	3-0	5-0
Benfica 8-0 on agg		
Electroputere Craiova v Panathinaikos	0-6	0-4
Panathinaikos 10-0 on agg		
FC Copenhagen v MP Mikkeli	5-0	5-1
FC Copenhagen 10-1 on agg		
Fenerbahce v Botev Plovdiv	3-1	2-2
Fenerbahce 5-3 on agg		
GKS Katowice v Galatasaray	0-0	1-2
Galatasaray 2-1 on agg		
Grasshopper v Sporting Lisbon	1-2	3-1
Grasshopper 4-3 on agg (aet)		
Juventus v Anorthosis Famagusta	6-1	4-0
Juventus 10-1 on agg		
Kiev Dynamo v Rapid Wien	1-0	2-3
Kiev on away goals, agg: 3-3		
Lokomotiv Plovdiv v Auxerre	2-2	1-7
Auxerre 9-3 on agg		
Manchester Utd v Moscow Torpedo	0-0	0-0
Torpedo 4-3 on pens (aet), agg: 0-0		
Mechelen v Orebro	2-1	0-0
Mechelen 2-1 on agg		
Moscow Dynamo v Rosenborg	5-1	0-2
Dynamo 5-3 on agg		
Norrkoping v Torino	1-0	0-3
Torino 3-1 on agg		
Paris Saint-Germain v PAOK Salonika	2-0	*2-0
Paris SG 4-0 on agg		
Politehnica Timisoara v Real Madrid	1-1	0-4
Real Madrid 5-1 on agg		
Sheffield Weds v Spora Luxembourg	8-1	2-1
Sheffield Weds 10-2 on agg		
Sigma Olomouc v Universitatea Craiova	1-0	2-1
Sigma 3-1 on agg		
Slavia Prague v Hearts	1-0	2-4
Slavia 4-3 on agg		
Standard Liege v Portadown	5-0	0-0
Standard 5-0 on agg		
Vac Izzo v Groningen	1-0	1-1
Vac 2-1 on agg		
Valencia v Napoli	1-5	0-1
Napoli 6-1 on agg		
Vitesse Arnhem v Derry City	3-0	2-1
Vitesse 5-1 on agg		
Wacker Innsbruck v AS Roma	1-4	0-1
AS Roma 5-1 on agg		
Widzew Lodz v Eintracht Frankfurt	2-2	0-9
Frankfurt 11-2 on agg		
Vitoria Guimaraes v Real Sociedad	3-0	0-2
Vitoria 3-2 on agg		

** = match abandoned after 46 mins, result stands*

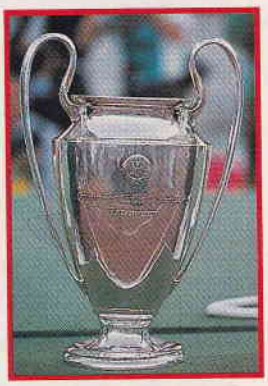
Second round

	1st	2nd
Anderlecht v Kiev Dynamo	4-2	3-0
Anderlecht 7-2 on agg		
Auxerre v FC Copenhagen	5-0	2-0
Auxerre 7-0 on agg		
Benfica v Vac Izzo	5-1	1-0
Benfica 6-1 on agg		
Borussia Dortmund v Celtic	1-0	2-1
Dortmund 3-1 on agg		
Eintracht Frankfurt v Galatasaray	0-0	0-1
Galatasaray 1-0 on agg		
Fenerbahce v Sigma Olomouc	1-0	1-7
Sigma 7-2 on agg		
Frem Copenhagen v Zaragoza	0-1	5-1
Zaragoza 6-1 on agg		
Hearts v Standard Liege	0-1	0-1
Standard 2-0 on agg		
Kaiserslautern v Sheffield Wednesday	3-1	2-2
Kaiserslautern 5-3 on agg		
Napoli v Paris Saint-Germain	0-2	0-0
Paris SG 2-0 on agg		
Panathinaikos v Juventus	0-1	0-0
Juventus 1-0 on agg		
Real Madrid v Moscow Torpedo	5-2	2-3
Real Madrid 7-5 on agg		
AS Roma v Grasshopper	3-0	3-4
AS Roma 6-4 on agg		
Torino v Moscow Dynamo	1-2	0-0
Dynamo 2-1 on agg		
Vitesse Arnhem v Mechelen	1-0	1-0
Vitesse 2-0 on agg		
Vitoria Guimaraes v Ajax	0-3	1-2
Ajax 5-1 on agg		

Third round

	1st	2nd
Ajax v Kaiserslautern	2-0	1-0
Ajax 3-0 on agg		
Borussia Dortmund v Zaragoza	3-1	1-2
Dortmund 4-3 on agg		
Moscow Dynamo v Benfica	2-2	0-2
Benfica 4-2 on agg		
Paris Saint-Germain v Anderlecht	0-0	1-1
Paris SG on away goals, agg: 1-1		
AS Roma v Galatasaray	3-1	2-3
AS Roma 5-4 on agg		
Sigma Olomouc v Juventus	1-2	0-5
Juventus 7-1 on agg		
Standard Liege v Auxerre	2-2	1-2
Auxerre 4-3 on agg		
Vitesse Arnhem v Real Madrid	0-1	1-0
Real Madrid 2-0 on agg		

● *Teams at home in 1st leg listed first.*



Presented **FREE** with WORLD SOCCER

The Portuguese squad celebrate victory in 1991.

ce!

for the lads

Sepp Blatter.

a 26-hour flight from Lisbon to Brisbane via London, Singapore and Malaysia.

Coach Agostinho Oliveira is far from happy that his youngsters will have less than a week to adjust before a most awkward opening of their title defence, against Germany. At least Oliviera has had his players together on several occasions already.

First came a three-day get-together in Lisbon at the start of February, then a four-day excursion to the Algarve for warm-up friendlies against Norway and Denmark. Portugal won in 1991 by defeating Brazil in a penalty shoot-out after a goalless draw in the Final before a record 120,000 in the Benfica stadium in Lisbon.

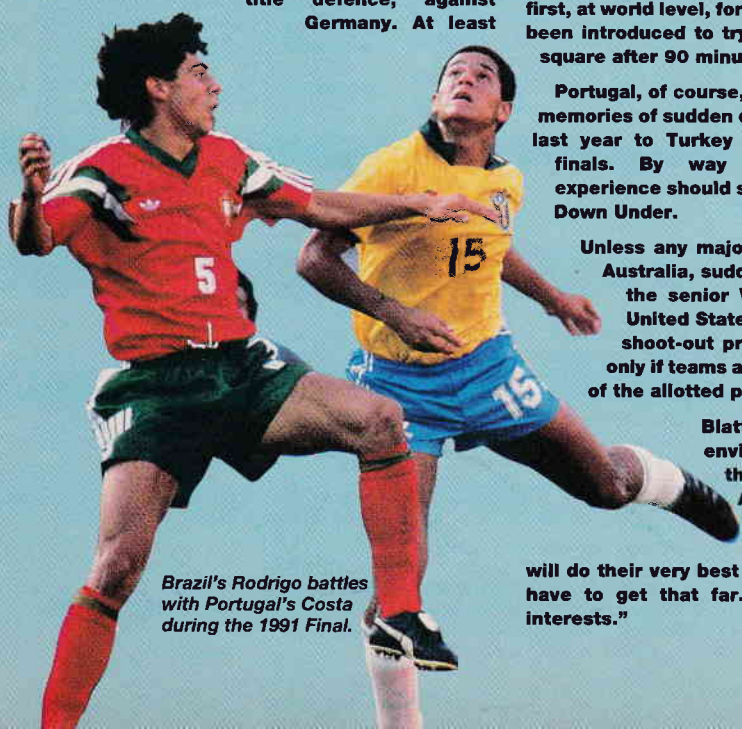
But the Australians may be spared shoot-out lotteries this time. The 1993 finals will be the first, at world level, for which sudden death has been introduced to try to decide matches all-square after 90 minutes.

Portugal, of course, do not have such happy memories of sudden death. They lost that way last year to Turkey in the European youth finals. By way of consolation, that experience should stand them in good stead Down Under.

Unless any major complications arise in Australia, sudden death will be used at the senior World Cup finals in the United States next year. The penalty shoot-out procedure will be invoked only if teams are still level after the end of the allotted period of extra time.

Blatter, for one, does not envisage many matches in the knock-out phase in Australia going that far. He says: "I'm sure the coaches and the players will do their very best to make sure they don't have to get that far. After all, it's in their interests."

KEIR **RADNEDGE**



Brazil's Rodrigo battles with Portugal's Costa during the 1991 Final.

PREVIOUS WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

Year	Opponents				Venue	Att
1977	SOVIET UNION *Bessonov 2*	2	MEXICO *Garduno, Manzo*	2	Tunis	5,000
	Soviet Union won 9-8 on pens					
1979	ARGENTINA *Alves, Diaz, Maradona*	3	SOVIET UNION *Ponomarev*	1	Tokyo	27,000
1981	WEST GERMANY *Loose 2, Wohlfarth, Anthes*	4	QATAR	0	Sydney	19,000
1983	BRAZIL *Silva*	1	ARGENTINA	0	Mexico City	110,000
1985	BRAZIL *Henrique*	1	SPAIN	0	Moscow	45,000
1987	YUGOSLAVIA *Boban*	1	WEST GERMANY *Witeczek*	1	Santiago	68,000
	Yugoslavia won 5-4 on pens					
1989	PORTUGAL *Abel, Jorge Couto*	2	NIGERIA	0	Riyadh	65,000
1991	PORTUGAL	0	BRAZIL	0	Lisbon	120,000
	Portugal won 4-2 on pens					

Two billion is the TV forecast

By **ROY WEBSTER**

AUSTRALIA'S smallest TV network has exclusive rights to the seventh World Youth Championship being staged next month.

Executives of the SBS organisation are predicitng a global audience of up to TWO BILLION for the tournament, which consists of 32 matches between March 5 and 20.

The event, officially the FIFA/Coca-Cola Cup, is held every two years. Viewers in 57 countries took live transmission of the 1991 Final between Portugal and Brazil, which also drew a crowd of 120,000 in Lisbon.

Les Murray of SBS said that the company will have ten cameras at all matches up to the final, when there will be 14.

"We're looking forward to some of the best soccer ever shown live in Australia," said Murray, whose commentary team includes Englishman Gerry Harrison.

"The games will be marvellous spectacles, and although this is the biggest task in SBS history, we're confident we can handle it. This is the biggest sports event, in terms of potential viewers, in the World this year."

Games will be played in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Canberra.

If the event goes smoothly, it will help Sydney's claims to be the host city for the Olympic Games in the year 2000.

WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE FIFA/COCA-COLA CUP

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Australia	Portugal	Korea	Mexico
Colombia	Germany	England	Norway
Russia	Uruguay	Turkey	Brazil
Cameroon	Ghana	USA	Saudi Arabia

1st phase

Date	Opponents	Venue
05.03.93	Australia v Colombia	Sydney
06.03.93	Portugal v Germany	Brisbane
06.03.93	Russia v Cameroon	Canberra
06.03.93	Uruguay v Ghana	Brisbane
07.03.93	Korea v England	Melbourne
07.03.93	Mexico v Norway	Adelaide
07.03.93	Turkey v US	Melbourne
07.03.93	Brazil v Saudi Arabia	Adelaide
08.03.93	Colombia v Cameroon	Canberra
08.03.93	Australia v Russia	Sydney
09.03.93	Germany v Ghana	Brisbane
09.03.93	England v US	Melbourne
09.03.93	Norway v Saudi Arabia	Adelaide
09.03.93	Portugal v Uruguay	Brisbane
09.03.93	Korea v Turkey	Melbourne
09.03.93	Mexico v Brazil	Adelaide
11.03.93	Colombia v Russia	Sydney
11.03.93	Germany v Uruguay	Brisbane
11.03.93	England v Turkey	Melbourne
11.03.93	Norway v Brazil	Adelaide
11.03.93	Australia v Cameroon	Sydney
11.03.93	Portugal v Ghana	Brisbane
11.03.93	Korea v US	Melbourne
11.03.93	Mexico v Saudi Arabia	Adelaide

2nd phase
Quarter-finals

13.03.93	#1	1st B v 2nd A	Brisbane
13.03.93	#2	1st A v 2nd B	Sydney
14.03.93	#3	1st C v 2nd D	Melbourne
14.03.93	#4	1st D v 2nd C	Adelaide

Semi-finals

17.03.93	Winner #1 v Winner #4	Melbourne
17.03.93	Winner #2 v Winner #3	Sydney

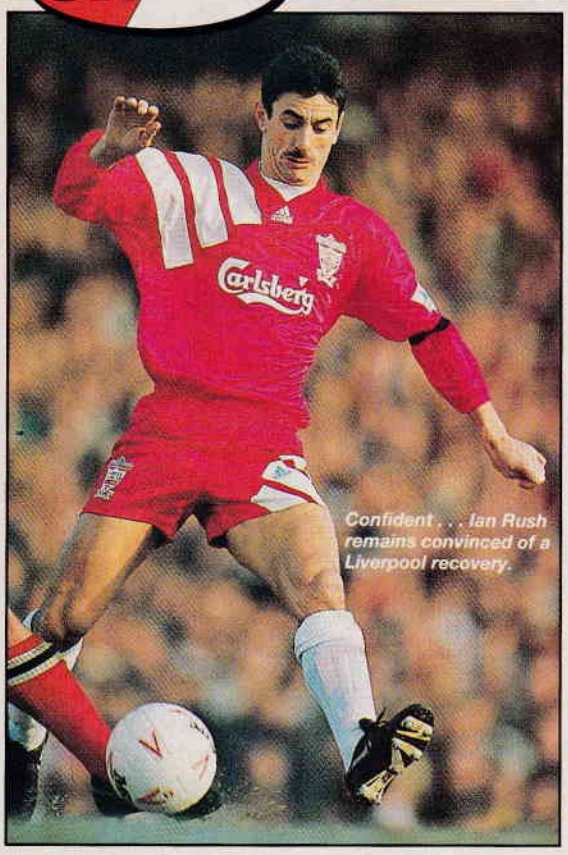
Third place play-off

20.03.93	Semi-final losers	Sydney

Final

20.03.93	Semi-final winners	Sydney

We'll be back



Confident . . . Ian Rush remains convinced of a Liverpool recovery.

Liverpool still optimistic despite the crisis

EVERYWHERE you turn inside the once impregnable fortress they call Anfield, it is impossible to escape the tradition and the many tales of triumphs past.

Glorious photographs of some of Liverpool's legendary figures and achievements peer down from almost every wall, while the glittering array of trophies tell their own stories.

And it is those historic reminders of a golden era of unprecedented success which are providing the inspiration for the current crop of players to restore the good name of Liverpool FC.

Things may be different inside this magnificent stadium; the "This Is Anfield" sign no longer fills visitors to Liverpool with dread the way it did through the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

The fabled boot room, the nerve centre of Anfield and the place where many of the success stories have been penned by so many famous names, is sadly no more.

But, among the latest breed of coaches and players, there is an awesome desire to emulate past achievements, to take their own place in the Liverpool Hall of Fame.

Of the much-maligned class of '93, nobody is more aware of the heritage which makes this club unique than Ian Rush.

After all, he has been a key member of five of Liverpool's record 18 championship-winning squads and has collected another eight winners-medals for good measure in his two spells at Anfield.

Such success, you might have thought, would carry with it complacency and a somewhat dulled desire to add to the roll of honour. Don't you believe it.

"You never get tired of success," insists 31-year-old Rush. "And I'm sure that none of the players who have been around during the 'good times', like me, have become blase and allowed the standards to slip.

"When I look at the photographs and the trophies around Anfield it makes me hungry for another taste of that sort of success. I'm sure the young ones too are inspired by them.

"They have joined a club steeped in the best traditions and they don't want to be remembered as players of the first Liverpool side for 20-odd years not to win anything.

"We all want to be part of a new and glorious era. Liverpool is still the best club in the world and we aim to prove it again."

There's no faulting Rush's optimism, but there are some who would fault the player's attempts to recapture his best goalscoring form after a testing 12 months in Italy with Juventus.

Rush is unmoved by the criticism levelled both at him, Graeme Souness and the club in general. If anything it has strengthened his resolve and he has a warning for anyone suggesting his best days are behind him.

Like 75 per cent of the playing staff at Anfield, Rush has had to contend with more than his fair share of injury problems over the past few seasons.

"I've heard people saying things like 'he'll never be the same again' but once I'm able to put an injury-free run together, even at 31, you'll see the old Ian Rush again," he suggests.

"So far I've been playing five or six games, missing a few and then playing in five or six more. That's no good to me. I need to be playing regularly — 15-20 games on the trot — to produce my best.

"Once I can put that sort of run together then I'll prove I can still score the goals which will make Liverpool great again."

Injuries, many long-term, have been Liverpool's most difficult opponents in recent years and the traumatic events of this season suggest Souness is no nearer finding a solution to the problem.

"The time to judge us is when I am in a position to field my strongest team" pleads Souness. When that might be is anybody's guess. Not even a supreme optimist like Rush is prepared to predict a date for that one.

But surely there must be more to Liverpool's problems than injuries.

A number of bad signings haven't helped and it is the money not-so-well spent that has given rise to the majority of criticism aimed at the beseiged Anfield chief.

Luck, or more importantly a lack of it, is a word Rush tends to fall back on quite a lot. The word "crisis", however, is rarely if ever plucked from his vocabulary to describe the club's current position.

"Things aren't as bad as people might think," he says with the sort of conviction some Liverpool players might show in front of goal.

"We're certainly not walking around the place with our chins on the floor.

"Despite what other people might think about us, we happen to believe we are not very far from being a top side again. The best, if you like.

"We still have supreme confidence in our ability and all the criticism that's been flying around has simply brought everyone closer together at the club and made us more resilent."

It has come as no surprise to Rush that so many people have been quick to leap on board the "let's lash Liverpool" bandwagon because, as he says, they have been waiting for this sort of thing to happen for 20 years.

"But you mark my words," he chips in. "It won't be long before those people who have been slagging us off will be telling us how good we are again."

After helping Liverpool average two trophies a season during their most prolific spell in the early 80s, however, such lean times have come as something of a shock to the Rush system.

Out of Europe, out of both cups and effectively out of the title race — and all that before the end of January. Surely, by Liverpool's standards, that means crisis, doesn't it?

"I've never been through anything like this and, obviously, it's not a nice situation to be in," he explains.

"Especially with all the stick that's been flying around. But we can get through it, and we'll get through it together.

"As much as some people might want to single out individuals — notably the boss — our philosophy is that we take the flak as a team just as we used to take the praise as a team.

"Mind you, I know which one I prefer."

DAVE **SMITH**

Viking invasion continues

THE SCANDINAVIAN invasion of English soccer has gathered pace in recent months, with the arrival of seven new players from Nordic countries bringing the total to 17 in the Premier League.

Expecting them all to succeed would be expecting far too much. Some have been frankly disappointing, some look promising and some have been excellent value for money.

Peter Schmeichel, Erik Thorstvedt, Jan Molby and Roland Nilsson have been the pick of the buys. Others have been huge disappointments.

Arsenal's John Jensen has utterly failed to reproduce the form he showed in the European Championship last summer, Pal Lydersen cannot get in the side and Anders Limpar has been woefully, annoyingly inconsistent.

Liverpool followed their summer signing of Danish centre-back Torben Piechnik by paying Rosenborg £600,000 for Norwegian international Stig Inge Bjornebye, who created some sort of record for an Anfield player by failing to appear on a winning side in his first six games.

The FA Cup-holders already had Denmark's Molby on their books.

Blackburn have strengthened their expensively-assembled squad by paying Malmo £800,000 for Swedish international defender Patrik Andersson, who played in all Sweden's matches at the European Championship finals last summer.

Manager Kenny Dalglish also signed Norwegian full-back Henning Berg. A £400,000 fee was agreed with his club Lillestrom, and once a work permit had been granted, Berg joined Andersson in the senior squad.

Dalglish has wisely used them in short spells as substitutes, while they gain experience.

Manchester City have jumped aboard the smorgasbord with the £500,000 capture of Norwegian World Cup midfielder Kare Ingebrigtsen from Rosenborg. The 26-year-old Ingebrigtsen, who impressed in a week's trial at Maine Road before Christmas, has played in the last 17

Peter Schmeichel.

John Jensen.

Maximum performance

Spry shows the way to real fitness

MANY commentators are tipping Aston Villa as possible first winners of the Premier League.

Manager Ron Atkinson has rightly earned praise for astutely building an attractive team.

And another of his "signings" — not well known to the public, but proving very important — is Roger Spry, one of the top physical conditioners in European football.

Atkinson was managing Atletico Madrid when he met Spry, and later took him to join his staff when he moved to Sheffield Wednesday.

"I was impressed with Roger's work and believed he could make a big contribution to our training programme, which he subsequently did," says Atkinson. "Now he's doing the same for Villa."

Spry works as fitness consultant, with all the players.

As a sprightly 40-year-old he is quickly building up a formidable reputation as a sports conditioning "guru" with wide experience: he has been consultant to three other English clubs, Arsenal, Coventry and Manchester City, to the Kuwait national team, Vitoria Setubal (Portugal), Fluminese (Brazil), Monaco (France) and Tromso (Norway), and the English, Scottish, Swedish, Portuguese, American and Norwegian FAs.

He also has acted as personal trainer to Frank Bruno (boxing), Ronan Rafferty (golf), Trevor Francis (soccer) and Graham Gooch (cricket), plus Brazilian footballers Ricardo, Baltazar and Valdo.

Spry started as a player with Wolves but a broken leg finished his career. He then lived abroad for many years to widen his education on physical conditioning and fitness, which always fascinated him.

He studied martial arts and gained a black belt in karate and aikido, plus the equivalent in capoerira (Brazilian fighting arts), as well as graduating with two degrees in sports science. From his studies he has formulated a dynamic, progressive and advanced training methodology which he terms Maximum Performance.

He has used his knowledge of the disciplines of other sports, his experience of continental soccer, theoretical expertise and insight to produce his unique method, praised by players and coaches alike.

He also has received the ultimate accolades from top coaches. Andy Roxburgh, the Scottish FA national coach, says: "We have had Roger as a guest on our SFA technical international panel more than any other personality in soccer.

"I cannot speak too highly about him. He is totally dedicated, fantastically knowledgeable, with great teaching ability. I never tire of watching him work, and can pay him no higher compliment than to say I find him an inspiration."

Malcolm Allison, now with Bristol Rovers, took Spry with him to Portugal during a successful spell with Vitoria Setubal.

Top condition . . . Roger Spry is praised by Malcolm Allison (left) and Andy Roxburgh (below).

"Roger is years ahead of his time in his approach to fitness training and preparation," says Allison.

"He is a brilliant, motivational and progressive teacher of physical conditioning, the best in world soccer."

Spry brings the "Continental" approach to his methods, and believes we should stop being so insular and learn from the way that the Italian League and others prepare their players.

For example, the Continentals employ specialists such as a coach to work on skills and tactics, a psychologist to work on motivation, a physiotherapist to deal with injuries, a trainer who develops physical fitness, and others.

In Britain one person, normally the coach or manager, is expected to do the lot!

MALCOLM **COOK**

Gunnar Halle.

Erland Johnsen.

Norwegian internationals. He also was in the side who drew 1-1 against England at Wembley last October, with Thorstvedt, Berg, Bjornebye and Halle.

Struggling Nottingham Forest have lined up Norway's Alf Inge Halland, but have have hit a snag with his work permit. Oldham already have Gunnar Halle at Boundary Park, and Aston Villa have taken Denmark's Henrik Larsen on loan from Pisa with a view to a permanent move.

Leeds had Norway's Frank Strandli at Elland Road for extended trials, and then signed him for £400,000 from IK Start. He began well with a goal on his debut against Middlesbrough.

The sudden influx of Scandinavian players can be attributed to Denmark's success in Sweden last summer and to Norway's progess in their opening World Cup qualifiers.

Scandinavian players are an attractive proposition for English clubs as they are relatively inexpensive, considering the inflated transfer values in the English game at present, and seem to adapt easily to the English lifestyle. Switching from part-time status at home to a full-time diet of football, football and football in England is more of a problem.

Most would have combined their soccer with a part-time job back home — Peter Schmeichel was an office clerk with a charity — but now have to concentrate solely on the game.

Fortunately English is a second language to most of them. Molby, for example, speaks with a Liverpool accent, with a Scandinavian twang thrown in for good measure!

At this rate, Saab cars, Carlsberg beer and the traditional giant Christmas tree from Oslo could be replaced as the best exports to England from Sweden, Denmark and Norway.

JOHN **KELLY**

SCANDINAVIANS IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE

Player	Club	Country
Patrik **ANDERSSON**	Blackburn	Sweden
Henning **BERG**	Blackburn	Norway
Stig Inge **BJORNEBYE**	Liverpool	Norway
Alf Inge **HALLAND** ▼	Nottm. Forest	Norway
Gunnar **HALLE**	Oldham	Norway
Kare **INGEBRIGTSEN**	Man City	Norway
John **JENSEN**	Arsenal	Denmark
Erland **JOHNSEN**	Chelsea	Norway
Henrik **LARSEN** ▲	Aston Villa	Denmark
Anders **LIMPAR**	Arsenal	Sweden
Pal **LYDERSEN**	Arsenal	Norway
Jan **MOLBY**	Liverpool	Denmark
Roland **NILSSON**	Sheff Weds.	Sweden
Torben **PIECHNIK**	Liverpool	Denmark
Peter **SCHMEICHEL**	Man Utd	Denmark
Frank **STRANDLI**	Leeds Utd	Norway
Erik **THORSTVEDT**	Tottenham	Norway

▲ = *on loan*, ▼ = *proposed move.*

← 5cm. →

RESULTS

ENGLAND

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	27	14	8	5	42	22	50
Aston Villa	27	14	8	5	44	29	50
Norwich	26	14	6	6	40	38	48
Coventry	28	11	9	8	44	38	42
Ipswich	27	10	12	5	36	31	42
Blackburn	27	11	8	8	40	30	41
Man City	27	11	7	9	39	30	40
QPR	26	11	7	8	36	31	40
Sheffield Weds	26	10	9	7	35	30	39
Chelsea	25	9	9	9	32	35	36
Arsenal	25	10	5	10	25	24	35
Liverpool	25	9	6	10	37	37	33
Everton	27	9	5	13	29	35	32
Tottenham	26	8	8	10	26	36	32
Leeds	26	7	9	10	27	30	30
Wimbledon	27	7	9	11	32	36	30
Southampton	27	7	9	11	29	34	30
Middlesbrough	27	7	9	11	36	45	30
Crystal Palace	27	7	9	11	34	44	30
Oldham	26	7	6	13	38	48	27
Nottm. Forest	26	6	7	13	26	35	25
Sheffield Utd	26	6	7	13	25	36	25

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

WEEKEND

FA CUP — 3RD ROUND

BOLTON 2 (McGinlay 8, seagraves 22)
LIVERPOOL 2 (Winstanley 56 o.g., Rush 82). **Att:** 21,502.

NOTTM. FOREST 2 (Keane 43, Webb 45)
SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Le Tissier 15). **Att:** 13,592

MIDDLESBROUGH v CHELSEA — *postponed*

● *These matches were held over from last month's issue.*

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

MIDWEEK

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — 4TH ROUND

SCARBOROUGH 0
ARSENAL 1 (Winterburn 51). **Att:** 6,261.

5TH ROUND

BLACKBURN 3 (Newell 60, 87, Wegerle 77)
CAMBRIDGE 2 (Clayton 49, Heathcote 89). **Att:** 14,165.

CRYSTAL PALACE 3 (Coleman 5, Ndah 34, Watts 48)
CHELSEA 1 (Townsend 18). **Att:** 28,510.

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 1 (Hillier 43)
SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Littlejohn 87). **Att:** 23,818.

BLACKBURN 0
WIMBLEDON 0. **Att:** 14,504.

CHELSEA 2 (Stuart 78, Spencer 83)
MAN CITY 4 (White 26, Sheron 29, 88, Sinclair 54 o.g.). **Att:** 15,939.

COVENTRY 0
NOTTM. FOREST 1 (Woan 65). **Att:** 15,264.

CRYSTAL PALACE 0
EVERTON 2 (Jackson 50, Beardsley 85). **Att:** 13,227

IPSWICH 1 (Kiwomya 59)
OLDHAM 2 (Brennan 16, Bernard 51). **Att:** 15,025.

LEEDS 2 (Chapman 50, Speed 72)
SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Dixon 20). **Att:** 26,071.

LIVERPOOL 1 (Barnes 42)
ASTON VILLA 2 (Parker 54, Saunders 64). **Att:** 40,826.

MANCHESTER UTD 4 (Cantona 40, Irwin 52, McClair 53, Parker 57)
TOTTENHAM 1 (Barmby 87). **Att:** 35,648.

MIDDLESBROUGH 0
QPR 1 (Ferdinand 72). **Att:** 15,616.

SHEFF WEDS 1 (Worthington 42)
NORWICH 0. **Att:** 23,360.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

MIDWEEK

FA CUP — 3RD ROUND

CAMBRIDGE 1 (Heathcote 50)
SHEFF WED 2 (Harkes 55, Bright 51). **Att:** 7,754.

CREWE 3 (McKearney 2 pen, Edwards 16, Clarkson 23)
MARINE 1 (Johnson 58). **Att:** 4,036.

NORTHAMPTON 0
ROTHERHAM 1 (Howard 90). **Att:** 7,256.

NOTTS COUNTY 0
SUNDERLAND 2 (Cunnington 34, Goodman 70). **Att:** 8,522.

IPSWICH 3 (Thompson 6, Dozzell 70, Whitton 85 pen)
PLYMOUTH 1 (Castle 31). **Att:** 12,803.

LECEISTER 2 (Thompson 66 pen, Oldfield 78)
BARNSLEY 2 (Whitlow o.g. 27, Redfearn 62). **Att:** 19,137.

MIDDLESBROUGH 2 (Wright 70, Falconer 83)
CHELSEA 1 (Mohan 68 o.g.). **Att:** 16,776.

NORWICH 1 (Beckford 47)
COVENTRY 0. **Att:** 15,301.

SOUTHEND 1 (Collymore 6)
MILLWALL 0. **Att:** 8,028.

3RD ROUND REPLAYS

BURNLEY 2 (Heath 16, Monington 67)
SHEFFIELD UTD 4 (Deane 19, 27, 45, Littlejohn 58). **Att:** 19,061.

EVERTON 1 (Watson 67)
WIMBLEDON 2 (Fashanu 35, Earle 50). **Att:** 15,293.

OXFORD 2 (Magilton 60 pen, Beauchamp 80)
SWANSEA 2 (Cornforth 51, Legg 57). **Att:** 4,707.
Swansea won 5-4 on pens

TRANMERE 3 (Vickers 20, Morrissey 60, 81)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 12,525.

CHARLTON 1 (Pitcher 87 pen)
LEEDS UNITED 3 (Speed 3, Garland o.g. 59, McAllister 89). **Att:** 8,337

HUDDERSFIELD 2 (Robinson 21, Dunn 56)
GILLINGHAM 1 (Green 84 pen). **Att:** 5,144.

LIVERPOOL 0
BOLTON 2 (McGinlay 3, Walker 78). **Att:** 34,790.

READING 0
MANCHESTER CITY 4 (Sheron 3, Holden 32, Fitcroft 68, Quinn 71). **Att:** 12,065

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — QUARTER-FINAL

ARSENAL 2 (Wright 55, 78)
NOTTM FOREST 0. **Att:** 25,600.

WEEKEND

EVERTON 2 (Cottee 30, 49)
LEEDS 0. **Att:** 21,031.

NORWICH 1 (Sutton 13)
COVENTRY 1 (Quinn 58). **Att:** 13,613.

OLDHAM 0
BLACKBURN 1 (Ripley 80). **Att:** 13,742.

ASTON VILLA 5 (Parker 25, McGrath 31, Yorke 44, Saunders 58, Teale 68)
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Hignett 82). **Att:** 29,015.

WIMBLEDON 2 (Fashanu 36 pen, Cotterill 62)
LIVERPOOL 0. **Att:** 11,294.

SHEFFIELD UTD 3 (Deane 31, 72, 75)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 16,758.

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Maddison 50)
CRYSTAL PALACE 0. **Att:** 13,397.

TOTTENHAM 0
SHEFF WEDS 2 (Bright 55, Hirst 88). **Att:** 25,702.

NOTTM. FOREST 3 (Bannister 9, 58, Orlygsson 89)
CHELSEA 0. **Att:** 23,249.

MAN CITY 0
ARSENAL 1 (Merson 79). **Att:** 25,041.

QPR 1 (Allen 43)
MANCHESTER UTD 3 (Ince 26, Giggs 30, Kanchelskis 48). **Att:** 21,117.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

MIDWEEK

FA CUP — 3RD ROUND

LUTON 2 (Gray 30, Hughes 81)
BRISTOL CITY 0. **Att:** 6,094.

3RD ROUND REPLAYS

BARNSLEY 1 (Archdeacon 89)
LEICESTER 1 (Joachim 30). **Att:** 15,238.
Barnsley won 5-4 on pens.

BRISTOL ROVERS 0
ASTON VILLA 3 (Saunders 24, 74, Houghton 83). **Att:** 8,880.

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — QUARTER-FINAL

IPSWICH 1 (Whitton 84 pen)
SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Sheridan 49). **Att:** 19,374.

WEEKEND

COVENTRY 3 (Gallacher 6, 16, Ndlovu 12)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 10,544.

FA CUP — 4TH ROUND

ASTON VILLA 1 (Yorke 3)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Elkins 35). **Att:** 21,088.

CREWE 0
BLACKBURN 3 (Wegerle 8, Newell 78, Moran 84). **Att:** 7,054.

HUDDERSFIELD 1 (Mitchell 27)
SOUTHEND 2 (Collymore 45, 52). **Att:** 7,961.

LUTON 1 (Telfer 23)
DERBY 5 (Short 23, Pembridge 42, 45, 55) Gabbiadini 82). **Att:** 9,170.

MANCHESTER UTD 1 (Giggs 76)
BRIGHTON 0. **Att:** 33,610.

NOTTM. FOREST 1 (Webb 59)
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Falconer 43). **Att:** 22,296.

QPR 1 (Holloway 90)
MAN CITY 2 (White 71, Vonk 75). **Att:** 18,652.

SHEFFIELD UNITED 1 (Cork 47)
HARTLEPOOL 0. **Att:** 20,074.

TRANMERE 1 (Nevin 17)
IPSWICH 2 (Dozzell 68, Guentchev 77). **Att:** 13,683.

SWANSEA v GRIMSBY — *postponed*

BARNSLEY 4 (Rammell 32, 43, 77, Redfern 72)
WEST HAM 1 (Morley 53 pen). **Att:** 13,176.

NORWICH 0
TOTTENHAM 2 (Sheringham 43, 51). **Att:** 15,003.

SHEFFIELD WED 1 (Bright 89)
SUNDERLAND 0. **Att:** 33,422.

WOLVES 0
BOLTON 2 (Green 11, McGinlay 24). **Att:** 19,120.

ARSENAL 2 (Parlour 50, Merson 81)
LEEDS 2 (Speed 24, Chapman 34). **Att:** 16,516.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

MIDWEEK

NORWICH 4 (Power 9, 89, Sutton 26, Goss 50)
CRYSTAL PALACE 2 (Armstrong 2, Thomas 45). **Att:** 13,543.

OLDHAM 0
MANCHESTER CITY 1 (Quinn 77). **Att:** 14,903.

MIDDLESBROUGH 2 (Mohan 24, Wilkinson 71)
SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Le Tissier 58). **Att:** 13,918.

BLACKBURN 2 (Newell 13, Henry 71)
COVENTRY 5 (Hendry 18 o.g., Hurst 44, Williams 48, Quinn 85, 89). **Att:** 15,215.

ASTON VILLA 3 (McGrath 54, Saunders 58, Richardson 90)
SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Deane 74). **Att:** 20,266.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Fashanu 75)
EVERTON 3 (Cottee 61, 71, Snodin 73). **Att:** 3,039.

MANCHESTER UTD 2 (Ince 47, Hughes 68)
NOTTM. FOREST 0. **Att:** 36,085.

TOTTENHAM 0
IPSWICH 2 (Yallop 47, Guentchev 80). **Att:** 23,738.

LIVERPOOL v LEEDS — *postponed*

QPR 1 (Allen 88)
CHELSEA 1 (Spencer 47). **Att:** 15,806.

COVENTRY 3 (Gallacher 6, 18, Ndlovu 13)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 10,544.

WEEKEND

EVERTON 0
NORWICH 1 (Sutton 16). **Att:** 20,031.

ARSENAL 0
LIVERPOOL 1 (Barnes 59 pen). **Att:** 27,580.

CHELSEA 0
SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Warhurst 3, Harkes 89). **Att:** 16,261.

COVENTRY 0
WIMBLEDON 2 (Holdworth 4, Clarke 55). **Att:** 11,774.

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Ruddock 56 o.g.)
TOTTENHAM 3 (Sheringham 15, 30, Gray 26). **Att:** 20,937.

IPSWICH 2 (Kiwomya 21, Yallop 47)
MANCHESTER UTD 1 (McClair 84). **Att:** 22,068.

LEEDS UTD 3 (Strandli 69, Batty 82, Fairclough 90)

MIDDLESBROUGH 0. **Att:** 30,344.

SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Hoyland 88)
QPR 2 (Allen 19, Holloway 75). **Att:** 16,366.

SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Banger 40, Dowie 64)
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 19,087.

NOTTM FOREST 2 (Woan 15, 59)
OLDHAM 0. **Att:** 21,240.

MANCHESTER CITY 3 (Sheron 33, Curle 73 pen, White 78)
BLACKBURN 2 (Newell 4, Phelen o.g.) **Att:** 16,302.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, 7 FEBRUARY

MIDWEEK

BLACBURN ROVERS 1 (Wegerle 16)
CRYSTAL PALACE 2 (Armstrong 9, Rodger 59). **Att:** 14,163.

FA CUP — FOURTH ROUND

SWANSEA 0
GRIMSBY 0. **Att:** 8,307.

FOURTH ROUND REPLAYS

LEEDS 2 (Shutt 69, McAllister 80)
ARSENAL 3 (Smith 48, Wright 87, 102). **Att:** 26,449.

MIDDLESBROUGH 0
NOTTM. FOREST 3 (Bannister 23, Clough 32, Woan 63). **Att:** 20,514.

NEWCASTLE 2 (Kelly 50, Clark 88)
ROTHERHAM 0. **Att:** 29,005.

WIMBLEDON 0
ASTON VILLA 0. **Att:** 8,048.
Wimbledon won 6-5 on pens

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — QUARTER-FINAL REPLAY

SHEFFIELD WEDS 1 (Warhurst 52)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 26,328.

WEEKEND

ASTON VILLA 2 (Yorke 32, Saunders 42)
IPSWICH 0. **Att:** 25,395.

LIVERPOOL 0
NOTTM. FOREST 0. **Att:** 40,463.

MANCHESTER UTD 2 (McClair 64, Cantona 80)
SHEFFIELD UTD 1 (Carr 8). **Att:** 36,156.

MIDDLESBROUGH 0
COVENTRY 2 (Ndlovu 67, Quinn 79). **Att:** 14,008.

OLDHAM 3 (Henry 38, Adams 61, Brennan 71)
CHELSEA 1 (Harford 89). **Att:** 11,762.

QPR 1 (Wilson 66)
MANCHESTER CITY 1 (Sheron 77). **Att:** 13,003.

SHEFFIELD WEDS 3 (Warhurst 16, Harkes 17, Waddle 62)
EVERTON 1 (Snodin 8). **Att:** 24,979.

WIMBLEDON 1 (Holdsworth 61)
LEEDS 0. **Att:** 6,704.

TOTTENHAM 4 (Sheringham 55, 60, Barmby 56, Anderton 58)
SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Dowie 22, Hall 66). **Att:** 20,098.

COCA-COLA (LEAGUE) CUP — SEMI-FINAL, 1ST LEG

CRYSTAL PALACE 1 (Osborn 54 pen)
ARSENAL 3 (Wright10 pen, Smith 21, 66). **Att:** 26,508.

Plugging the gaps : Cardiff's Kevin Ratcliffe.

Nomads make progress

KONICA LEAGUE club Connah's Quay Nomads ended little AFC Porth's giant-killing Welsh Cup run with a comfortable 3-1 win.

Porth had beaten Konica sides Llanelli and Aberystwyth Town in previous rounds.

Nomads will be joined in the semi-final draw by Cardiff City, who beat Maesteg Park 5-0 in a repeat of last year's semi-final, and the winners of the outstanding quarter-finals, Wrexham v Merthyr Tydfil and Llansantffraid v Rhyl.

Llansantffraid are favourites to take the Manweb Cymru Alliance (equivalent of Division II North) and win promotion into the national Konica League. This would top a meteoric rise by this progressive club from Fourth Division status in the Montgomeryshire League to the top in successive seasons.

They remain unbeaten in the League and their reserve side are doing even better, in their second season without defeat.

In the top division, Aberystwyth Town's win at Maesteg Park keeps them in touch with leaders Cwmbran Town and Inter Cardiff, who are evenly matched leaders.

Haverfordwest County, with former international Alan Curtis prominent, have dropped behind of late but have matches in hand.

Ebbw Vale have mounted a push for a European place, climbing to fourth with a 5-4 win over Afan Lido.

Wrexham's promotion challenge in the Barclays League Division Three continued with a fine 3-0 win over fellow challengers York, after a disappointing end to their unbeaten run at Barnet, the leaders.

Cardiff City also are threatening to go up. Kevin Ratcliffe has now signed a contract until the end of the season and should help to close up a leaky defence.

MEL AP IOR **THOMAS**

Smith is 99 per cent sure

ANY lingering doubts over the Scottish Premier Division title's destination were ended when Rangers beat Aberdeen 1-0 at Pittodrie, with Mark Hateley heading the goal early in the second half.

Manager Walter Smith's team are now 99 per cent sure of their fifth successive championship.

Aberdeen were regarded as the only meaningful challengers, due to the somewhat inept form displayed by Celtic, Dundee United and Hearts.

The Dons, revitalised under manager Willie Miller, certainly had looked capable of pushing Rangers all the way, just as they had done two seasons ago when the title hinged on a final-day encounter between the sides.

Then the Pittodrie result opened a gap that is likely to prove too wide to be negotiated, even though three months remain.

A few days later 44-year-old Smith had to be taken to hospital for an operation to remove his appendix, but he should soon be back operating at 100 per cent.

Although the title now appears well beyond Aberdeen's grasp, and the club's trophy-gathering exploits of the 1980s have now slowed down considerably, but there is still significant optimism .

Miller has probably the strongest pool of players in Scotland outside Ibrox, and his transfer-market acumen has been shown in the comparatively inexpensive acquisition of Lee Richardson from Blackburn.

Richardson, reunited with former Ewood Park team-mate Duncan Shearer, has strength and control — particularly beneficial as the Dons strive to re-establish themselves.

Miller also has striker Eoin Jess, an exciting prospect who has committed himself to Aberdeen for the foreseeable future.

Not everything is falling neatly into the Ibrox lap.

Rangers failed to secure Gordon Durie from Tottenham just when it seemed that the transaction had been finalised, and a reported £2m offer to Dundee United for another striker, Duncan Ferguson, was rejected by manager Jim McLean.

The bid provided the spark for a bitter three-pronged wrangle involving the clubs and Ferguson's agent.

McLean criticised Rangers for making details public, Rangers said they felt compelled to do so following an alleged leak from Tannadice, and the agent publicly berated United for their treatment of the youngster.

A variety of criticisms included the suggestion that due to inordinately harsh fines levied against him by the club management, Ferguson's pre-Christmas weekly wage packet amounted to a meagre £23.12!

Back to Rangers . . . they will face a crowd after all when they play Club Brugge away in the Champions League .

UEFA have upheld the Belgian club's appeal against the order forcing them to stage the match behind closed doors.

ALAN **FAIRLEY**

Gone North . . . Richardson moved from Blackburn to Aberdeen.

Short but sweet for Gary

TEN MINUTES of soccer action in four months . . . but what value!

Gary Macartney had been missing for eight weeks until he went on as a 67th-minute substitute in Glentoran's Bass Irish Cup replay at Portadown.

After only ten minutes on the pitch he scored what proved to be the winning goal, but then went off because he had aggravated his knee injury, and he is likely to be out for two more months.

Glentoran's fifth-round victory, after the first match had ended 0-0, maintained a remarkable record.

The clubs have met in the Irish Cup ten times in its 69 years, and Portadown have never won.

The holders, Glenavon, went out 3-0 to Ballymena, with former Motherwell striker Neil Candlish scoring a hat-trick. A week later Ballymena returned to Lurgan for a League match and won 2-0 with Candlish scoring both.

Newry Town were the only Irish League club beaten by a junior team, losing on penalties in a home replay against Dundela.

Linfield, now a fair bet for the double, cruised to a 6-1 win over Coleraine, then beat Distillery to take a two-point lead in the League race.

ROY **KITSON**

SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	26	21	4	1	63	21	46
Aberdeen	27	17	5	5	61	21	39
Celtic	28	13	9	6	44	30	35
Hearts	29	12	10	7	31	26	34
Dundee Utd	28	11	6	11	29	33	28
St Johnstone	29	8	10	11	36	47	26
Hibernian	28	7	10	11	33	41	24
Partick Thistle	28	8	8	12	35	46	24
Dundee	28	7	8	13	35	47	22
Motherwell	28	6	8	14	30	44	20
Falkirk	28	8	4	16	42	58	20

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

MIDWEEK

RANGERS 3 (Hateley 8, McCoist 23, 69)
DUNDEE UTD 2 (Welsh 54, Perry 58).
Att: 40,239.

WEEKEND

SCOTTISH CUP — 3RD ROUND

ABERDEEN 4
HAMILTON 1

AIRDRIE 0
CLYDEBANK 0

ARBROATH 3
MORTON 0

CLYDE 0
CELTIC 0

COVE RANGERS 2
EAST STIRLING 2

DUNDEE UTD 3
MEADOWBANK 1

DUNFERMLINE 1
AYR UNITED 2

FALKIRK v BERWICK
— postponed

HEARTS 6
HUNTLY 0

HIBERNIAN 5
ST MIRREN 2

KILMARNOCK 5
RAITH ROVERS 0

MOTHERWELL 0
RANGERS 2

PARTICK 0
COWDENBEATH 1

ST JOHNSTONE 6
FORFAR 0

STIRLING 1
EAST FIFE 2

DUNDEE 2
DUMBARTON 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 7 (Paatelainen 2, 37, 42, 78, Jess 16, Booth 53, Irvine 66)
AIRDRIE 0. **Att:** 9,000.

HIBERNIAN 2 (Jackson 8, Van der Horn o.g.)
DUNDEE UNITED 1 (McInally 36).
Att: 5,531.

Postponed —

DUNDEE v HEARTS

FALKIRK v PARTICK THISTLE

CELTIC v ST JOHNSTONE

MOTHERWELL v RANGERS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

MIDWEEK

HEARTS 2 (Robertson 3, Baird 27)
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:** 5,060.

SCOTTISH CUP — 3RD ROUND REPLAYS

CLYDEBANK 2
AIRDRIE 0.

CELTIC 1 (Coyne 39)
CLYDE 0. **Att:** 16,559.

WEEKEND

AIRDRIE 0
CELTIC 1 (Coyne 5). **Att:** 7,200.

DUNDEE UTD 2 (Crabbe 14, Connolly 40)
FALKIRK 1 (Duffy 14). **Att:** 5,626.

HEARTS 0
MOTHERWELL 0. **Att:** 6,610.

ST JOHNSTONE 2 (Deas 60, Turner 82)
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 4,206.

SCOTTISH CUP — 3RD ROUND REPLAY

EAST STIRLING 2
COVE RANGERS 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

MIDWEEK

PARTICK THISTLE 2 (Kinnaird 28, Britton 81)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 2,797.

Postponed —

ABERDEEN v DUNDEE UTD

DUNDEE v CELTIC

MOTHERWELL v AIRDRIE

PARTICK THISTLE v HIBERNIAN

RANGERS v FALKIRK

SCOTTISH CUP — 3RD ROUND

FALKIRK 5
BERWICK 2

WEEKEND

HIBERNIAN 3 (McGinlay 69, 90, Jackson 77)
RANGERS 4 (Hateley 43, 72, Steven 70, McCoist 85). **Att:** 17,444.

FALKIRK 1 (McCall 82)
ABERDEEN 4 (Jess 25, 84, Shearer 34, Booth 72). **Att:** 6,800.

CELTIC 1 (McStay 48)
MOTHERWELL 1 (Angus 90).
Att: 18,513.

DUNDEE UTD 0
HEARTS 1 (Robertson 63). **Att:** 7,732.

AIRDRIE 2 (Kirkwood 14 pen, Smith 16)
DUNDEE 2 (Reid 48 o.g., Patterson 72).
Att: 2,500.

ST JOHNSTONE 0
PARTICK THISTLE 0. **Att:** 4,100.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

MIDWEEK

ABERDEEN 0
RANGERS 1 (Hateley 59). **Att:** 15,600.

FALKIRK 4 (Taylor 29, McAllister 34, 72, Duffy 78)
PARTICK 2 (Tierney 2, Shaw 52).
Att: 4,660.

MOTHERWELL 2 (Kirk 4, McGrillen 87)
DUNDEE UTD 0. **Att:** 3,783.

WEEKEND

MOTHERWELL 0
AIRDRIE 0. **Att:** 5,382.

SCOTTISH CUP — 4TH ROUND

ARBROATH 0
EAST FIFE 0. **Att:** 2,984.

AYR 0
RANGERS 2 (McCoist 39, Gordon 76).
Att: 13,900.

COWDENBEATH 0
HIBERNIAN 0. **Att:** 4,509.

FALKIRK 2 (Duffy 44, May 83)
CELTIC 0. **Att:** 13,012.

HEARTS 2 (Ferguson 44, Robertson 89)
DUNDEE 0. **Att:** 12,021.

KILMARNOCK 0
ST JOHNSTONE 0. **Att:** 9,278.

ABERDEEN 2 (Jess 76, 85)
DUNDEE UTD 0. **Att:** 14,5000.

EAST STIRLING 1 (Geraghey 22)
CLYDEBANK 2 (Eadie 21, Flanagan 53).
Att: 1,177.

DIARY

21 DECEMBER MONDAY

SWITZERLAND: Jean-Paul Brigger quits as coach to champions Sion in a row over the board's decision to appoint a technical director above him.

22 DECEMBER TUESDAY

ACTION: Germany beat Albania 4-1 in a European Under-21 tie.

ARGENTINA: River Plate coach Daniel Passarella threatens legal action against a TV director who accuses him of having incited the club's fans to riot and force suspension of the weekend game against Argentinos Juniors.

GERMANY: World Cup-winning defender Stefan Reuter (right) of Borussia Dortmund undergoes a cartilage operation.

PORTUGAL: Boavista's Brazilian midfielder Artur Duarte suffers multiple fractures in a car crash.

TURKEY: Tanju Colak, former Golden Boot winner, is sentenced to nine years in prison for his involvement in smuggling a Mercedes in from Germany without declaring it to customs.

23 DECEMBER WEDNESDAY

BELGIUM: A civil court orders Mechelen to pay £200,000 to former coach Rudi Krol to settle his unfair dismissal and compensation claim.

ITALY: Milan win their postponed game against Sampdoria by 2-1 in Genoa, with goals from Simone and Gullit, thus becoming the first club to complete a calendar year undefeated.

MALTA: The federation awards a bonus of £5,000 a man to the national team who made life so awkward for Italy in the World Cup tie.

24 DECEMBER THURSDAY

SPAIN: Barcelona president Josep Luis Nunez confirms his intention to stand, in February, for re-election for a further five-year term.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA withdraw Portugal's hosting rights for the next European Under-18 event because no representative of the Portuguese federation attended the draw.

25 DECEMBER FRIDAY

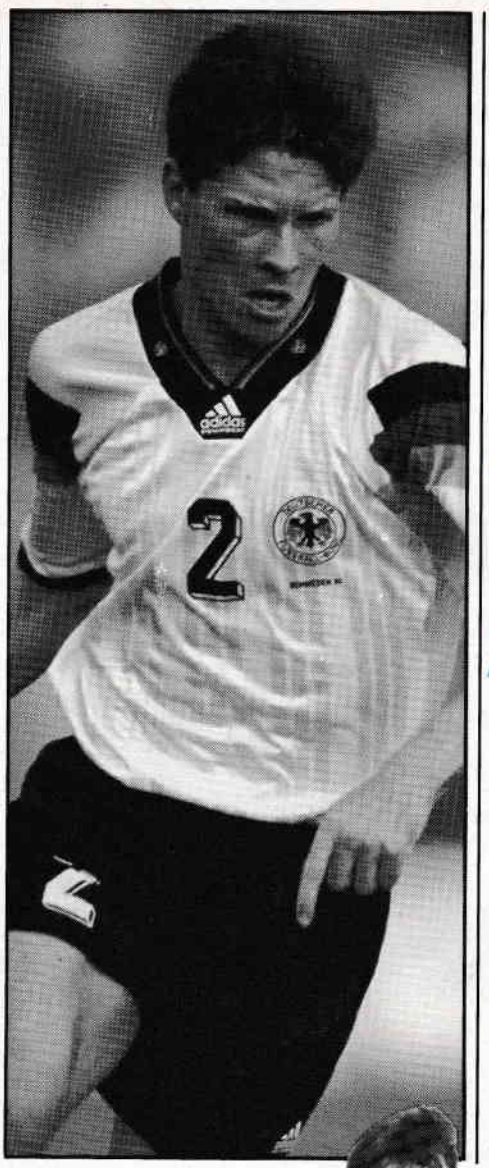
ENGLAND: Ted Croker, former secretary of the FA, dies aged 68.

26 DECEMBER SATURDAY

FRANCE: Bernard Tapie makes a political comeback. Following suspension of an inquiry into a business scandal, he is reinstated as Minister for Urban Affairs by Prime Minister Pierre Beregovoy.

GERMANY: Franz Beckenbauer suggests that the reigning World Cup holders should no longer be seeded direct to the finals.

PARAGUAY: Cerro Porteno beat Libertad 5-0 in a championship play-off.



27 DECEMBER SUNDAY

ACTION: Boavista beat Second Division Infesta only 2-0 after extra time in the Portuguese Cup. Porto, Benfica and Sporting all win.

BRAZIL: Sao Paulo's Rai is voted Brazilian Footballer of the Year as Paris Saint-Germain emerge as surprising favourites to buy him.

CROATIA: Sevilla striker Davor Suker is voted Croat Footballer of the Year.

MEXICO: Miguel Mejia Baran, former aide of Bora Milutinovic at the 1986 World Cup finals, is appointed national manager in succession to Cesar Menotti.

28 DECEMBER MONDAY

SPAIN: Confusion reigns over the future of Dutch coach Guus Hiddink at Valencia after reports from Belgium that Anderlecht want to lure him away at the season's end . . . La Coruna deny reports that they are ready to sell Bebeto to Benfica.

29 DECEMBER TUESDAY

ARGENTINA: Rosario Central directors meet Cesar Menotti to try to persuade him to return to a coaching post in Argentina with them. Racing also are interested.

GREECE: Olympiakos pay deadly rivals Panathinaikos £400,000 for Australian Chris Kalantzis.

ITALY: Alvaro Trinca, one of the masterminds of the illegal betting and bribes coup of the early 1980s, dies aged 57. Uncovering the scandal led to the suspensions of two dozen top players and officials as well as the enforced relegations of Lazio and Milan.

ZIMBABWE: Coventry's Peter Ndlovu is voted Zimbabwe Sportsman of the Year.

30 DECEMBER WEDNESDAY

ARGENTINA: Boca Juniors buy Alberto Acosta from San Lorenzo for a domestic record £1.3million.

TEAM of the MONTH

Atalanta . . . *for upsetting a lot of greater reputations in Italy.*

BRAZIL: Sao Paulo agree to sell Rai to Paris Saint-Germain for £1.6million. The transfer will be concluded in July.

ITALY: Milan beat a "Christmas Stars" team 4-2 in a charity match to raise money for disadvantaged children. A 40,000 crowd turns out to see Milan win with goals from Evani, Massaro (two) and Serena. The all-stars' goals come from Papin and Berti. The match features 40 players from 14 countries.

SPAIN: The federation say they will apply to host the European Championship finals in the year 2000.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA confirms that Libya have withdrawn from the World Cup qualifiers.

31 DECEMBER
THURSDAY

ITALY: Vittorio Cecchi Gori, controversial vice-president of Fiorentina, starts to train with the players "to encourage them by letting them know that the board is with them."

PORTUGAL: Benfica prepare to welcome back Brazilian international centre back Mozer, who is now fit again after being injured in the club's opening game of the season.

SPAIN: Albacete name Victor Esparrago as new coach.

Jurgen Klinsmann . . . for proving that he was serious in wanting to keep his career alive in France with Monaco.

1 JANUARY
FRIDAY

HOLLAND: Ajax sell Holland striker John Van Loen to Feyenoord.

GERMANY: Werder Bremen's Andreas Herzog hears he has been voted Player of the Year in his native Austria.

ITALY: Juventus coach Giovanni Trapattoni says he intends experimenting with star striker Gianluca Vialli in midfield.

SPAIN: Albacete appoint former Uruguayan World Cup star Victor Esparrago as new coach . . . Real Madrid tell Brazilian defender Ricardo Rocha his contract will not be extended at the season's end.

YUGOSLAVIA: Partizan's Predrag Mijatovic is voted Footballer of the Year.

2 JANUARY
SATURDAY

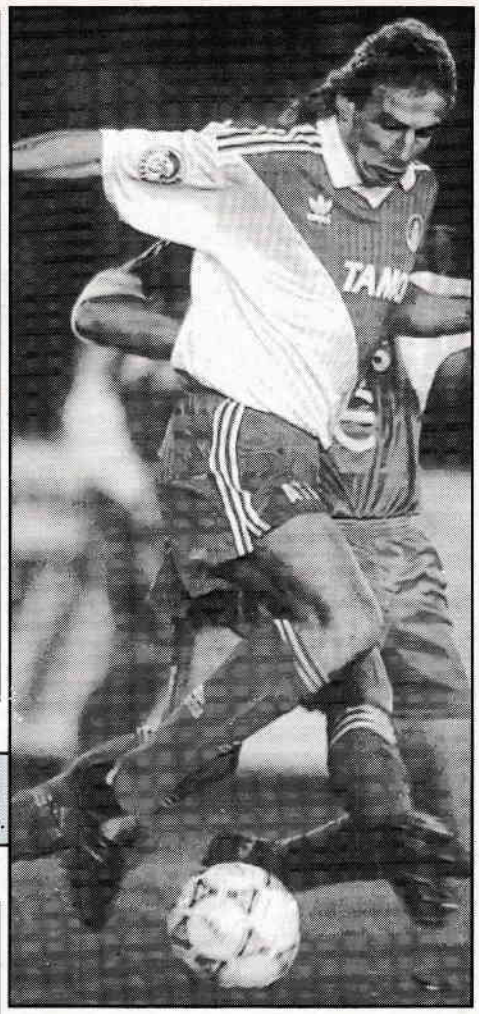
ENGLAND: Manchester City sign Norwegian forward Kare Ingebrigtsen from Rosenborg Trondheim.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Valeri Lobanovski is dismissed as national manager in the wake of the Gulf Cup disappointment.

3 JANUARY
SUNDAY

ACTION: Anderlecht win 2-0 away to FC Liege to reach the quarter-finals of the Belgian Cup . . . Bolivar beat San Jose 3-1 in the championship play-off . . . Milan win 1-0 away to Roma despite having Baresi sent off after only five minutes . . . four players are sent off in a stormy match in Lisbon as Benfica beate Belenenses 3-0 . . . Richard Witschge scores a rare goal for Barcelona on one of his rare appearances in a 2-0 win over Celta. Fernando Hierro scores twice as Real Madrid beat Osasuna 3-0.

BULGARIA: Levski change their name yet again. After spells as Levski, Levski Spartak and Vitosha the club revert to Levski 1914.



POLAND: Confusion reigns over the identity of the Footballer of the Year as both main sports papers differ in choice between Juskowiak and Kowalczyk.

4 JANUARY
MONDAY

ENGLAND: Denmark midfielder Henrik Larsen is loaned to Aston Villa by Pisa.

FRANCE: Abedi Pele of Marseille is voted African Footballer of the Year for the second successive time.

ITALY: Fiorentina, having dismissed Gigi Radice, appoint Aldo Agroppi, a former club coach who has lately been a soccer analyst for one of Silvio Berlusconi's TV channels . . . Sampdoria midfielder Srecko Katanec begins training again after lengthy injury . . . Ruud Gullit repeats his criticisms of the pitch in the Stadio Meazza . . . Zibi Boniek is appointed coach to Third Division Sambenedettese.

SPAIN: Cruyff says it is 95 per cent certain he will stay on at Barcelona.

SWITZERLAND: Grasshopper sign forward Ron Willems from Ajax.

5 JANUARY
TUESDAY

ACTION: America of Mexico beat Alajuelense 1-0 in Santa Ana, California, to win the CONCACAF Champions' Cup. Hugo Sanchez scores the vital goal.

ARGENTINA: Carlos Bianchi, former record-breaking goalscorer, is appointed new boss of Velez Sarsfield.

SPAIN: Real Madrid decide to install undersoil heating during the close-season at the Stadio Bernabeu . . . the federation's disciplinary commission decide that expulsion was enough of a punishment for Diego Maradona in Sevilla's game against Tenerife and thus he can play, after all, against his old club Barcelona at the weekend.

6 JANUARY
WEDNESDAY

ARGENTINA: Argentina ask Denmark to fly to Buenos Aires for a February 24 meeting between the champions of South America and Europe.

ENGLAND: United States defender John Harkes opens talks with Sheffield Wednesday manager Trevor Francis about a contract extension.

FRANCE: Marseille lose, surprisingly, 2-0 away to Lille in a match postponed last December because of a waterlogged pitch.

LIBERIA: Liberia become the 11th African nation to withdraw from the current World Cup qualifiers.

PORTUGAL: Boavista come from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 with neighbours Porto in the Super Cup second leg and thus win 4-3 on aggregate . . . Benfica formally condemn the neo-Nazi fans who caused trouble at the weekend match against Belenenses.

CONTINUED OVER

WHAT'S ON

FEBRUARY

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24
World Cup qualifiers, Europe Group 1: Portugal v Italy. **Group 2:** Holland v Turkey. **Group 3:** Spain v Lithuania. **Group 4:** Cyprus v Czechoslovakia.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26
World Cup qualifier, Africa Group A: Algeria v Ghana.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
World Cup qualifiers, Africa Group D: Nigeria v Congo. **Group G:** Senegal v Gabon. **Group H:** Zambia v Madagascar. **Group I:** Kenya v Guinea.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28
World Cup qualifiers, Africa Group B: Cameroon v Zaire. **Group C:** Egypt v Zimbabwe, Togo v Angola. **Group E:** Niger v Botswana. **Group F:** Benin v Ethiopia, Morocco v Tunisia.

MARCH

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3
Champions' Cup group matches, 3rd series. Cup-winners' Cup & UEFA Cup quarter-finals, 1st leg.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7
Kirin Cup: Japan v Hungary (Fukuoka).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10
World Cup qualifier, Europe Group 2: San Marino v Turkey. **Kirin Cup:** Hungary v United States (Nagoya).

SUNDAY, MARCH 14
Kirin Cup: Japan v United States (Tokyo).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17
Champions' Cup group matches, 4th series. Cup-winners' Cup & UEFA Cup quarter-finals, 2nd leg.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24
World Cup qualifiers, Group 1: Italy v Malta. **Group 2:** Holland v San Marino. **International:** Scotland v Germany (Glasgow).

SATURDAY, MARCH 27
World Cup qualifier, Group 6: Austria v France.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31
World Cup qualifiers, Group 1: Switzerland v Portugal. **Group 2:** Turkey v England. **Group 3:** Denmark v Spain, Rep. of Ireland v Northern Ireland. **Group 4:** Belgium v Wales. **Group 5:** Hungary v Greece.

CONTINUED

SCOTLAND: Rangers captain Richard Gough is ruled out for three weeks by the recurrence of an old thigh injury.

7 JANUARY
THURSDAY

CAMEROON: Manager Roger Milla says Cameroon will fulfil their weekend World Cup qualifier against Zaire despite a cash crisis which very nearly led to the squad being thrown out of their hotel in Yaounde.

ENGLAND: Sweden defender Patrik Andersson completes his £800,000 transfer from Malmo to Blackburn . . . Arsenal manager George Graham is fined £500 by the FA on a misconduct charge. Striker Ian Wright is suspended for three games after an incident with David Howells in the recent match against Tottenham.

REP. OF IRELAND: Kevin Moran is cleared by FIFA to play in the next World Cup qualifier, against Northern Ireland. Moran had been suspended because of two yellow cards in previous matches. However the Irish successfully appealed that Moran had been a victim of mistaken identity in the match against Denmark when the referee, Poland's Ryszard Wojcik, reported Moran as cautioned instead of Niall Quinn, the man who had been shown a yellow card.

UNITED STATES: The USSF firms up on dates for the US Cup matches in June involving the US, Brazil, England and Germany. The last match pits England against Germany indoors in the Pontiac Silerdome, Detroit . . . the US World Cup organisers appoint ex-NBC sports director Michael Weisman to organise preparatory TV programming.

8 JANUARY
FRIDAY

AUSTRIA: Herbert Prohaska, former international midfielder of FK Austria, Inter and Roma and ex-boss of FK Austria, is appointed national team manager in succession to Ernst Happel, who died before Christmas.

DENMARK: The DBU agree to send their European championship side to play South American title-holders Argentina in Buenos Aires on February 24.

ITALY: Paul Gascoigne is reported on the verge of signing a new boots contract — just as he is, for the first time, the subject of seriously critical comment in the Italian sports media.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: Antoni Piechniczek, former manager of Poland, is appointed by the UAE in succession to the dismissed Valeri Lobanovski.

9 JANUARY
SATURDAY

ACTION: Francis Severeyns scores four as Antwerp run up a remarkable 5-1 win away to Standard Liege in the Belgian league . . . Jurgen Klinsmann scores all four as Monaco crush Auxerre 4-0 in France and push ahead of Nantes at the top on goal difference . . . Sporting (1-0 at Tirsense) and Benfica (2-0 at Pacos Ferreira) both win in Portugal. Benfica are strengthened by the return, after five months injured, of Brazilian centre back Carlos Mozer.

GERMANY: Eintracht Frankfurt are shocked to learn that coach Dragoslav Stepanovic has decided to take over during the summer at Bayer Leverkusen.

10 JANUARY
SUNDAY

ACTION: World Cup competition in Africa sees a 2-1 victory for Cameroon in Zaire and a 1-1 draw between Angola and Zimbabwe . . . Greek champions AEK suffer their first defeat of the season, 1-0 away to Olympiakos, whose winner is scored by their Australian substitute, Chris Kalantzis . . . Milan beat Cagliari 1-0 with a Papin penalty to stretch their unbeaten league run to 50 games . . . Romanian Ion Timofte scores twice as Porto win 3-1 at Estoril to extend their four-point lead . . . Real Madrid hit form at last, winning 5-1 away to Real Sociedad with two goals from Ivan Zamorano.

11 JANUARY
MONDAY

FRANCE: William Prunier (above) threatens to walk out on Auxerre after being barracked by the fans in the weekend thrashing by Monaco.

HOLLAND: Ajax forward Dennis Bergkamp says he will leave at the end of the season for Spain or Italy. Barcelona and Juventus are transfer front-runners . . . Feyenoord win their appeal against the Dutch authorities' initial refusal to grant work permits to the Gunnlaugsson twins.

ITALY: Genoa's out-of-form spearhead Tomas Skuhravy is attacked by angry fans in a fast-food restaurant.

12 JANUARY
TUESDAY

ARGENTINA: Vicente Cantatore (ex-Chile national coach) is appointed boss of Rosario Central.

GERMANY: Aron Schmidhuber is voted World Referee of the Year. Not one English referee appears in the top 20.

ITALY: Paulo Roberto Falcao, replaced as boss of Mexico's America, considers an offer from the Berlusconi TV companies to return to Italy as soccer analyst replacement for Aldo Agroppi — now coaching Fiorentina.

TURKEY: Yugoslav Todor Veselinovic is confirmed as new coach of Karisiyaka.

13 JANUARY
WEDNESDAY

BELGIUM: Anderlecht's Philippe Albert is voted Footballer of the Year.

ENGLAND: Liverpool suffer one of their worst defeats in years, by 2-0 at home to Second Division Bolton in the FA Cup. Furious manager Graeme Souness says: "Too many of the players have no instinct or love for this club."

SWITZERLAND: FIFA say that Marco Van Basten, Hristo Stoichkov and Thomas Hassler as leading contenders for the Player of the Year award to be presented in Lisbon at the start of February.

14 JANUARY
THURSDAY

ARGENTINA: National manager Alfio Basile names recent Spanish league rivals Diego Maradona and Fernando Redondo in his squad for the February friendly against Brazil. This should be Maradona's first appearance for his country since the 1990 World Cup Final.

BELGIUM: Anderlecht, despite leading the league and having reached the quarter-finals of the Cup, dismiss coach Luka Peruzovic. General manager Michel Verschueren says the decision had been on the cards for some weeks because Peruzovic "could not communicate suffiently with players and press."

FRANCE: Brazilian forward Rai pays a flying visit to Paris to complete outstanding formalities towards his transfer from Sao Paulo to Paris Saint-Germain. He will move to France in July.

UNITED STATES: Olympic goalkeeper Brad Friedel, a target of Nottingham Forest, is awarded the Hermann Trophy as outstanding male collegiate player of the year. The women's award goes to Mia Hamm, a member of the 1991 World Cup-winning team.

15 JANUARY
FRIDAY

BRAZIL: The repaired Maracana is to be reopened in February but with a capacity reduced from its theoreti-

cal 200,000 to 125,000. Maracana has not been used since last July when three fans were killed and others injured when support barriers on an upper tier collapsed . . . Renato joins Flamengo, from Cruzeiro, for the third time in his controversial career.

ITALY: Gianluca Vialli is dropped from Italy's squad for the friendly against Mexico.

PORTUGAL: Sporting's Jorge Cadete is recalled to the national squad for the World Cup tie against Malta.

UNITED STATES: An economic and business survey suggests the World Cup will bring $400million worth of business to the New York-New Jersey area.

ZIMBABWE: The federation complain they may have to continue their World Cup camaign without star forward Peter Ndlovu if his English club, Coventry, maintain their demand for £2million insurance cover.

16 JANUARY SATURDAY

ACTION: South Africa are held 0-0 at home by Nigeria and virtually eliminated from the World Cup qualifiers; Zambia go top of qualifying Group H with a 3-1 win in Tanzania . . . Klinsmann's 14th goal of the season brings Monaco a 1-0 win over Nimes and edges them one point clear at the top of the French league, because Nantes are held 1-1 by Auxerre . . . Atletico draw 1-1 with Real in the Madrid derby; Sabas and Zamorano score the goals.

17 JANUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: a busy World Cup day in Africa with away victories for Zimbabwe (2-1 in Togo), Tunisia (5-0 in Benin) and Madagascar (1-0 away to Namibia) as well as a string of goalless draws . . . Nissan Yokohama and Piruzi of Iran draw 1-1 in the first leg of the Asian Cup-winners' Cup Final in Japan . . . Standard recover from their home thrashing by Antwerp to win 6-2 away to relegation-bound Boom . . . Aston Villa go top of the Premier League with a 5-1 victory over Middlesbrough . . . PSV Eindhoven suffer only their second league defeat of the season, an injury-hit side going down 3-1 at Volendam . . . Inter beat Parma 2-1 and, according to their players, still believe Milan can be caught despite their eight-point advantage at the top of the table . . . Benfica, despite being reduced to ten men by the expulsion of Mozer, force a 1-1 draw away to Porto after extra time in the Portuguese Cup, fifth round . . . Bebeto scores his 18th goal of the season as La Coruna defeat Oviedo 2-1 to stay top in Spain. Barcelona, matching winners against Osasuna, are two points behind.

18 JANUARY MONDAY

ANGOLA: Angola and Egypt draw 0-0 in Luanda in a World Cup qualifier which had to be postponed from Sunday after the referee's travel problems delayed his arrival.

ENGLAND: Torquay chairman Mike Bateson threatens to complain to FIFA after the FA refuse to sanction a no confidence vote against chief executive Graham Kelly for the evidence he gave in a recent trial in which Brentford's Gary Blissett was acquitted of causing grievous bodily harm to Torquay defender John Uzzell . . . Manchester United now take over at the top of the Premier League after winning a bruising match 3-1 at Queens Park Rangers.

ITALY: Paul Gascoigne's agent, Mel Stein, denies a report in a London newspaper that Lazio want to sell him at the end of the season.

19 JANUARY TUESDAY

ACTION: Sporting Lisbon lose 2-0 at home in a friendly against the France national team.

CYPRUS: International defender Nicky Papavasiliou, who has been playing in Greece for OFI Crete, starts a trial with Newcastle.

ENGLAND: Denmark midfielder Henrik Larsen joins Aston Villa on loan from Pisa for the rest of the season.

HOLLAND: The KNVB promises major action to eradicate racist behaviour in Dutch football.

MALTA: Striker Stefan Sultana, who missed Malta's World Cup tie with Italy because it clashed with his wedding, is recalled for the tie against Portugal. He replaces Joe Camilleri.

NORWAY: Top club Rosenborg Trondheim face tax evasion charges concerning payments and expenses on behalf of players and directors.

SPAIN: Tenerife report that Fernando Redondo is likely to be out for two months because of a knee injury he suffered against Real Sociedad at the weekend. This means he will miss his potential Argentine national team recall against Brazil in February . . . Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil agrees reluctantly that unhappy Portuguese skipper Paulo Futre can leave — "as long as he does not join Real Madrid."

UNITED STATES: San Francisco Blackhawks, the 1991 APSL champions, say they want to play in the Mexican championship.

20 JANUARY SUNDAY

ACTION: Italy beat Mexico 2-0 in a Florence friendly.

JAPAN: A spokesman for the J League says that officials will seek FIFA approval for the use of sudden death and then, if necessary, penalty shoot-outs to decide matches in the new league which end in a draw at 90 minutes. FIFA officials have frowned on the proposals.

POLAND: The squad for next month's friendlies against Cyprus and Israel lacks all foreign-based Polish players.

OBITUARY

MICHAEL KLEIN (right), Romanian World Cup defender, dies aged 33 after collapsing during training with his German club, Bayer Uerdingen. Klein, who leaves a widow and 18-month-old daughter, played 89 times for Romania.

FREDERIC JOHANSEN, aged 20, of Mulhouse, French football's so-called "New Platini" is killed in a car crash.

LOUIS WOUTERS, Belgian champion in 1944 with Antwerp and later general manager, dies aged 70.

RINUS TERLOUW, formerly of Sparta Rotterdam and capped 34 times by Holland in the 1950s, dies aged 70.

STEFAN BETSA, aged 22 of Kiev Dynamo, and **ALEXEI SASKO**, 22, of Dnepr, die together in the same car accident. Betsa leaves a widow and two-year-old son. Sasko had been married only a month.

MICHEL ONGAGNA, 1972 African Nations champion with Congo and local Footballer of the Year in 1968, dies aged 46.

STEVE ROSS, driving force for Warner Communications behind New York Cosmos in the Pele days of the 1970s, dies aged 65.

TERESIO RIVERA, father of Gianni and the driving force behind his son's teenage explosion on the Italian game, dies aged 81.

EDIVALDO MARTINS, Brazilian World Cup star in Mexico in 1986, dies in a street accident aged 30. He had just been looking forward to a career in Japan with Panasonic.

JOSE ANTONIO "MIKEL" SANTAMARIA, former defender with Real Sociedad of San Sebastian in the 1960s and early 1970s, is shot dead in his restaurant in San Sebastian by Basque terrorists. He was 47.

DARIO SCARAMUZZA, former Italian referee, commits suicide aged 38.

HECTOR DE BOURGOING, Argentine-born French World Cup forward in England in 1966, dies aged 58. He played 10 times for Argentina, three times for France and spent most of his club career with Nice, Bordeaux and Racing Paris.

WORLDWIDE QUIZ

TRY your luck at our WORLDWIDE QUIZ. Answers on a *postcard* to the usual address by April 4, please.

The February quiz was won with an all-correct forecast . . . by an entrant who forgot to put a name and address. The card was posted in Kingston-on-Thames. If you know who you are, drop us a line!

The answers to last month's, and this month's questions, are as follows:

1. Name the Manchester United player who scored two goals on his debut, in a particularly notable match, but scored only four more goals in a 350-game career.

2. Which country lost 32 successive international matches between May 1980 and April 1985?

3. Who was the first player to appear in an FA Cup Final and a League Cup Final?

4. Which club play home games at the Ennio Tardini stadium?

5. Name all the players whose surnames begin with the letter Q to have appeared in a postwar FA Cup Final.

6. In 1990-91 Suad Besirevic was top scorer for a championship-winning club. Which one?

7. Who played in League Cup finals for two London clubs, ten years apart?

8. What nationality are current players Remes, Rinne, Rovio and Europaeus?

9. Which country won three successive internationals in 1954 by scores of 7-1, 9-0 and 8-3?

10. Name the player who appeared in four FA Cup semi-finals in the 1930s for different clubs.

February answers:

1 .... Alex Stepney (Pat Jennings scored against him).
2 .... Lothar Emmerich with Germany and Borussia Dortmund (14 goals) in 1966.
3 .... 1986-87.
4 .... Real Madrid in 1975-76.
5 .... Andy Cunningham, Newcastle, 1929.
6 .... Borussia Monchengladbach in 1976-77.
7 .... Argentina.
8 .... Concetto lo Bello.
9 .... Northern Ireland (Neill, Clements, Blanchflower, Bingham).
10 .. Barrow in 1971-72.

Disaster starts at an early age

BRAZILIAN footballers are learning their bad habits at a young age.

The Sao Paulo Cup for under-19s, the traditional prelude to the Brazilian season, this year provided shocking examples of young players kicking each other, protesting at every decision, delaying free-kicks and all the other nonsense which makes Brazilian domestic football a disaster.

Every goal was celebrated as if a war had been won, the scorer often running half the length of the pitch making provocative gestures at the crowd, the bench or, preferably, the cameras.

There were 35 sendings-off in the first 32 matches, and one Vasco da Gama player was banned for 20 days for kicking an opponent who was on the ground (admittedly feigning an injury) after he had been sent off.

Dubious refereeing did not help. Corinthians qualified for the semi-finals on goal difference by beating Gremio 5-1 in their last game and scoring their last two goals with doubtful penalties.

All this in a youth tournament! Sao Paulo were honourable exceptions to all the above and deservedly took the title, beating Corinthians 4-3 in the final before a 50,000 crowd.

Once the juniors had finished, the seniors began where they left off last season, with more violence. Only 18 minutes of the Sao Paulo Championship had gone when Neto, who captains Corinthians, had to leave the field after a ruthless tackle from Bragantino defender Remerson.

A cowardly and potentially crippling challenge from behind sent Neto hobbling off.

Fortunately nothing was broken, but he was ruled out for at least 10 days.

Remerson received a mere yellow card and, undeterred by that feeble punishment, handed out similar treatment in the second half, this time to Viola, and was sent off. To most watchers, this was belated justice. Not to the Bragantino players, who surrounded the referee, furiously protesting their colleague's innocent.

In addition to Remerson's violence, there were 42 fouls, the ball was in play for a mere 46 minutes and Viola conned the referee into giving a penalty, which the TV replays clearly showed was a dive. Justice was done when Adil missed, and Bragantino won 1-0.

All this was bad news for anyone hoping for an improvement on last year's domestic season, when violence, time-wasting etc., made many matches unwatchable.

Appropriately, the season had ended with Fluminese players fighting with riot police after they lost the Brazil Cup final to Internacional.

Fluminense were furious with the referee for not adding injury time at the end of the second leg, which Internacional won 1-0 to give them a 2-2 draw on aggregate and the title on away goals.

As the final whistle went, Fluminense players began pushing the referee and then fought with riot police.

Ironically, Fluminense had done the time-wasting.

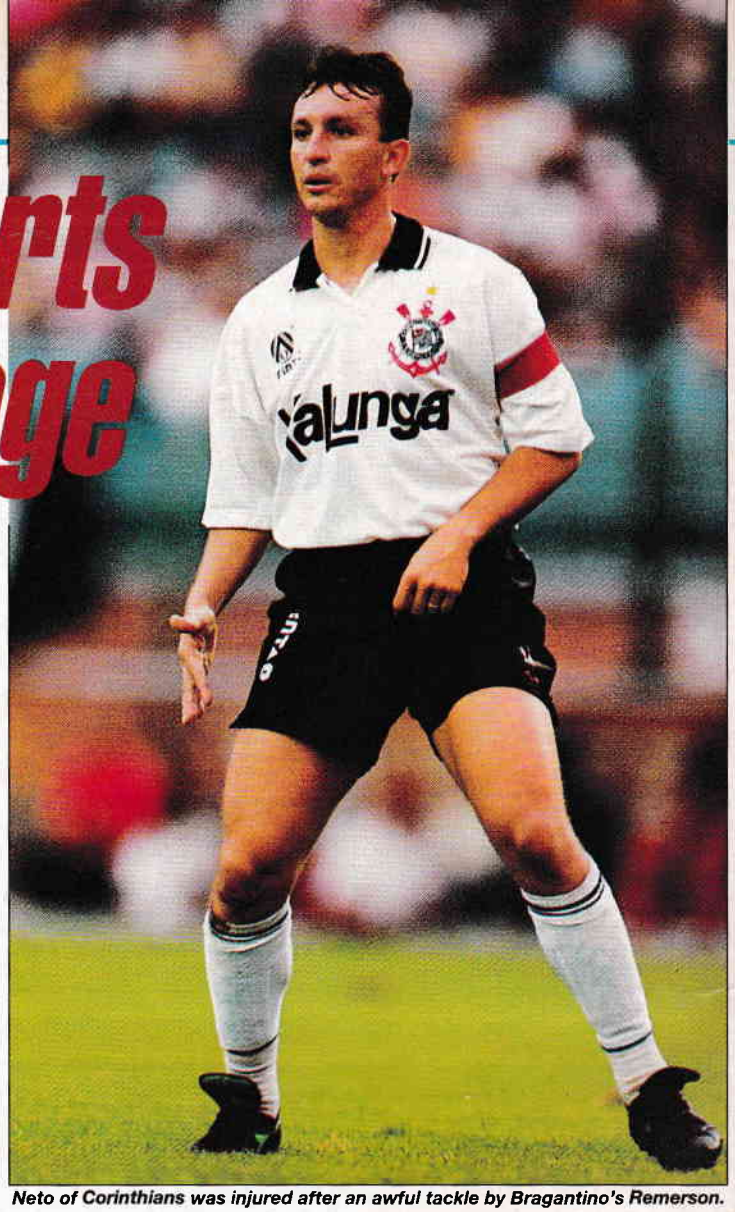
The fighting continued next day when Fluminense players bumped into the referee on their flight back to Rio.

He was forced to get off and take the next plane.

No action has been taken against Fluminense.

The irony, of course, is that at international level Brazil had a fine season, winning everything in sight.

Sao Paulo took the Libertadores Cup and World Club Cup, Atletico Mineiro won the first CONMEBOL Cup, Cruzeiro won the South American Super Cup and the national team beat France and Germany.



Neto of Corinthians was injured after an awful tackle by Bragantino's Remerson.

Yet the domestic scene continues in turmoil.

The players' behaviour and feeble refereeing is worsened by silly championships, saturation TV coverage and a calendar more crowded than the Black Hole of Calcutta.

Now the CBF have reversed the calendar, and the state championships will be played in the first half of the year, along with the Brazil Cup.

The second half of the year is devoted to the national championship, which this time will have no less than 32 teams.

Flamengo, Internacional and Sao Paulo all have to find time for the Libertadores Cup in the first half of the year: four other teams will play in the CONMEBOL Cup; and Sao Paulo, Santos, Flamengo, Internacional, Cruzeiro and Gremio play in the South American Super Cup during October and November.

The national team face a tournament in the United States in June (also involving the US, England and Germany), the Copa America in July, and the World Cup qualifying matches in August and September. Ridiculous!

BRIAN **HOMEWOOD**

Boliva

BOLIVAR of La Paz continue to rule Bolivian soccer. They won the national title in a play-off with San Jose of Oruro, 6-1 at home and 3-1 away.

Earlier in the season Bolivar had won the first stage of the championship to qualify for the Libertadores Cup for the ninth time in 10 years. San Jose won the second stage and Bolivar the third, but this made the play-off necessary.

Then San Jose beat Jorge Wilstermann (runners-up) 4-3 on penalties, after a 1-1 draw, to take the other Libertadores Cup place, as last year.

Bolivar are coached by the first Russian ever to handle a South America club. He is Vitaly Schevchenko, who had been in charge of Lokomotiv and the Soviet junior team.

The 1993 League championship will be shortened to just two stages — the first with all 16 clubs, the second with 12.

Chile

AN exciting play-off between the second to fifth teams for the vice-championship, and a place in this year's Libertadores Cup, ended with victory for Universidad Catolica.

They finished level with their classic rivals, Universidad de Chile, who had beaten them 3-1 in the round robin. Catolica reversed the score in the decider, with Argentine Juan Carlos Almada scoring their three goals.

Champions Cobreloa finally came to terms with their coach, Jose Sulantey, who wanted to leave when the club refused to accept his transfer plans.

Colo Colo's Mirko Jozic also agreed to stay and the club signed Peruvian striker Eduardo Hurtado from Switzerland's St Gallen. Osorno also were in the news as they awaited the arrival of German coach Peter Obenmeier.

He was said to be bringing two German players to strengthen the side.

Astengo is back

CHILEAN defender Fernando "El Leon" Astengo, now 32, is back in circulation.

A number of clubs in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Chile are interested in him, but as yet he has not signed to play again . . . as he would like to.

Astengo captained Chile in the 1989 World Cup qualifying match against Brazil in Rio when his goalkeeper, Roberto Rojas, feigned injury from flying fireworks and the whole team walked off, apparently under captain's orders.

Rojas was banned for life, while Astengo and coach Orlando Aravena got five years.

Astengo, who swears he had nothing to do with the walk-off, was lunching in a restaurant with some football friends in Santiago when his wife rang him to give him the news that FIFA had lifted his ban.

"I was never given a chance to defend myself," he says.

"I was only asked if I was responsible for the team and obviously I said yes, but I never thought I would be punished so harshly."

During the three years of his suspension Astengo eluded publicity and hardly moved in soccer circles, not even going to see matches, adopting what he called an attitude of "mental health".

He says: "I dedicated myself to my family, went to the gym to keep fit

Dentist is new coach

DOCTOR Miguel Mejia Baron, a dentist by trade but with more than 30 years in soccer, replaces Cesar Menotti as Mexico's national coach.

Mejia Baron, 48, who was suggested as a replacement by Menotti, spent his entire playing career with UNAM, from 1964 to 1976, and latterly has coached Monterrey.

He is due to lead the team in the CONCACAF final round against Canada, Honduras and El Salvador, to be played with home and away legs from April 4 to May 9.

The winners qualify for the World Cup 1994 finals and the second-placed team will have to play off with the Oceania winner and a South American team for a final place.

Hugo Sanchez scored yet another vital goal for Mexico City's America when they beat Costa Rica's Alajuelense 1-0 in the 1992 Final of the CONCACAF Club Championship for the American Airlines Cup.

But in the First Division America have missed a final round qualifying place, in spite of beating overall leaders Necaxa 1-0, for the first time in five years. Necaxa were a man short for all but 10 minutes.

America are third in their group of the championship, in which all 20 teams play each other twice and then the top two of each of four groups advance to the title finals.

America and UNAM are the two third-placed clubs with the best records, and this would get them a "wild card" entry.

Three foreigners are leading scorers after 24 of the 38 games — Brazilian Tita (Leon), Chilean Ivo Basay (Necaxa) and Argentine Jorge Comas (Veracruz) — with 17 goals each.

The 1991 US champions, San Franciso Bay Blackhawks, who reached the semi-finals of the CONCACAF Club Championship before going out to the eventual winners, America, are interested in joining the Mexican League until a proper pro league is formed in the US.

El Salvador have a new coach — Brazilian Jorge Silva Vieira.

ERIC **WEIL**

and read about psychology and other things. I realised I couldn't spend five years lamenting my bad luck."

But he could not keep away from soccer entirely. He taught youngsters at Magallanes, a modest Second Division club, and never stopped training, in the hope that he would be able to play again.

Alberto Acosta, the Argentine international striker who was top scorer in the 1992-93 national opening championship, moved from San Lorenzo to Boca Juniors for two million dollars, but his contract was actually bought by a Boca Juniors board member. San Lorenzo needed the money to finish building their new stadium.

Venezuela

DEFENDING champions Caracas FC, now strengthened by the signing of former Chilean international Juan Carlos Letelier, are joint leaders of the Venezuelan First Division.

Minerven and Mineros de Guyana share top place.

Uruguay

NACIONAL, who clinched last season's Uruguayan title several weeks before the end, finished with a five-point lead over River Plate, who only returned to the top division last season.

Uruguay's other big club, Penarol, finished joint fourth, seven points behind Nacional.

The top six qualified for the "Liguilla" to pick two representatives for the Libertadores Cup, and at press time Nacional were already assured of one of the top two places.

Paraguay

Perfumo resigns

OLIMPIA finished what for them was an indifferent season in Paraguay by qualifying for the Libertadores Cup in a play-off with Libertad.

The first leg ended 1-1 and as a result Olimpia's Argentine coach, Roberto Perfumo, already unpopular with the fans, handed in his resignation.

The second leg ended with the same score, but Olimpia won 3-2 on penalties when their Argentine World Cup goalkeeper, Sergio Goycochea, saved the fifth shot.

Libertad goalkeeper Celso Guerrero saved three shots, but it was not good enough — two of his team shot wide.

Perfumo was replaced by two former Olimpia players, Hugo Almeida and Alicio Soladine, who were in the team that won Paraguay's only Libertadores Cup in 1979.

Olimpia won the season's opening national championship, which gave them the right to play for a Libertadores Cup place, but then lost in the final of the CONMEBOL Cup and the semi-finals of the Super Cup and First Division championship.

That was not good enough for Paraguay's oldest and most famous club, so the new coaches immediately brought back seven ageing players — including Romero and Amarilla.

They also signed Paraguayan Carlos Torres, who had been playing for Racing Club in Argentina.

Brazilian coach Paulo Cesart Carpegiani, who resigned when Cerro Porteno were eliminated from the Libertadores Cup at the quarter-final stage last year, returned and signed Ecuador international Luis Capurro — his country's top player last year — from Emelec.

Brazilian Dida also came from Palmeiras (Brazil), to strengthen the squad for this year's Libertadores Cup.

Yet another Cup

CONMEBOL have invented yet another South American club competition — the fifth.

This is the Nicolas Leoz Copa de Oro, in honour of the current Paraguayan president, and is for the winners of the year's Libertadores Cup (Brazil's Sao Paulo), Super Cup for past Libertadores winners (Brazil's Cruzeiro), Masters Cup for past Super Cup winners (Argentina's Boca Juniors) and CONMEBOL Cup for clubs outside the top two of their countries (Brazil's Atletico Mineiro).

The first edition of the new tournament — mostly a Brazilian affair this year, when 1992 winners clash — will be played in Belo Horizonte (Brazil), the home town of two of the participants, from July 6-11, right after this year's South American nations championship.

CONMEBOL also announced dates for this year's CONMEBOL Cup (August 4-September 22) and Super Cup (November 6-24) and that the international ban on River Plate's stadium — imposed for six months after a Super Cup match last November — had been lifted.

Astengo . . . back in business after a five-year suspension.

Fourth time lucky for Guerra

EL NACIONAL, the club who employ only native born players, have won the Ecuadorian championship for the tenth time in their 28-year existence.

They beat Barcelona in a play-off, winning the first leg 2-1 and then drawing the second 1-1.

Barcelona had the best record in the final round, with six wins and three draws to El Nacional's five wins and four draws, but a bonus point — awarded for finishing first in one of the earlier stages — gave El Nacional their place in the knock-out.

Coach, Ernesto Guerra must take much of the credit. He took over at El Nacional for the FOURTH time, with the championship six weeks old, and led them to top spot.

Even though rival clubs often import players from other South American countries, homely El Nacional withstood the challenge. Unfortunately violence often marred play in the championship.

El Nacional had 22 players sent off in a 42-match programme, with 89 bookings, and suspensions and injuries forced them to use 33 men.

Luis Capurro of Emelec was named Player of the Year, and Carlos Munoz of Barcelona was top scorer with 18 goals.

ECUADOR — FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
El Nacional*	10	5	4	1	16	7	15
Barcelona	10	6	3	1	14	7	15
Emelec*	10	5	2	3	21	10	13
Green Cross*	10	2	3	5	8	15	8
LDU*	10	2	2	6	7	16	7
Deportivo Quito	10	2	2	6	10	21	6

** = One bonus point awarded to clubs finishing best in previous rounds.*

LESLIE **DICKENS**

Referees are victims of youth violence

THE KIDS followed the example set far too often by their senior counterparts during the inaptly named Tournament of Hope in Colombia.

Clubs represented in this under-19 competition included all Colombia's best-known, plus Real Madrid, Sampdoria, Boca Juniors, River Plate, Flamengo and Nacional of Montevideo.

The tournament was won by Junior Barranquilla, who beat the Colombian youth squad on penalties in the final, after a tame 0-0 draw. America Cali defeated Real Madrid to decide third and fourth places.

The results will soon be forgotten, but the violence in two of the games will live in the memory.

In one, referee Samuel Castillo was attacked by players after ruling that the Flamengo goalkeeper had moved too soon when facing a penalty during the shoot-out, then level at 3-3.

The referee abandoned the match, which was later awarded to the opposition — Junior.

In another match, three River Plate players were sent off, two for manhandling the referee and the other for arguing.

When the Colombian youth team added a second goal, to lead 2-0, brawling broke out between players, officials, spectators and police, with referee Jairo Escobar caught in the middle.

He had to be helped off after being kicked, and later reported seven River Plate players and the entire coaching staff, who now face possible disciplinary action.

River plate later issued an apology, blaming the referee for the trouble.

Colombia

Valderrama in, Valderrama out

COLOMBIAN captain Carlos Valderrama was the biggest name on the move in the hectic pre-season weeks.

Valderrama, 31, spent last season with Medellin, having returned to Colombia from Europe. But the club were in no position to turn down the $900,000 Junior Barranquilla were prepared to pay for Valderrama.

He is returning to his roots — he is from nearby Santa Marta — while Junior have the chance to link their latest signing with Victor Danilo Pacheco, the young midfielder already burdened with the tag of the "new" Valderrama.

Meanwhile Valderrama's younger brother, Alan, has left Junior for Millonarios, who also have signed Junior's veteran forward Arnoldo Iguaran, returning to his former club.

Junior have signed three other Colombian internationals: defender Alexis Mendoza, midfielder Mario Coll and forward Miguel Angel Guerrero. All three previously played for the club.

As for the 1992 champions, America Cali, Paraguayan Javier Ferreira is the only major signing. Central defender Nestor Fabri has returned to Argentina while attempts to sign Brazilian midfielder Renato and Adolfo Valencia, a forward from the Bogota club Santa Fe, was reportedly worried about being kidnapped — in which case he probably will not enjoy Flamengo's Libertadores Cup games in Cali and Medellin.

Valencia is currently the hottest property on the Colombian market, but America and Santa Fe were unable to agree a fee.

Francisco Maturana, the America Cali and national team coach is said to have received an offer of close to $1million to coach Atletico Madrid.

Maturana is committed to America Cali until at least May, by which time the club hope he will have led them to victory in the Libertadores Cup.

Junior Barranquilla are hoping to re-sign Ivan Rene Valenciano from Italian club Atalanta.

He has had only limited chances in Italy and will return home if the clubs can work out a loan deal. Atalanta still owe Junior at least half the original $4million fee.

On the other hand Colombia's other export to Italy, Faustino Asprilla, recently had a congratulatory phone call from the Colombian president, Cesar Gaviria, after his display for Parma against Napoli.

Barranquilla has been chosen as the site of all Colombia's World Cup games later this year.

KEITH **SMITH**

Brazil

A record — 222 players go abroad

BRAZIL broke all records last year by "exporting" 222 players to 23 countries, with 77 off to Portugal — many of them youngsters, going to Second and Third Division teams — and 34 to Japan.

The major transfer, of course, was that of national team captain Rai from Sao Paulo to Paris Saint-Germain for 3.1 million dollars.

The increasing number of players going abroad is put down to growing poverty, but there seem to be plenty left.

Brazilian clubs won all three major South American club competitions last year and Sao Paulo also took the World Club Cup. Coach Tele Santana signed a new contract with Sao Paulo until the middle of the year and Rai will stay until then.

Sao Paulo show no other major team changes, so they should continue to be a power.

Another major transfer was that of Renato, the striker with 40 caps, who was left out of Brazil's last World Cup squad at the last moment, for disciplinary reasons.

He returned to play for Flamengo for the third time, after his contract with Cruzeiro ended at the end of 1992.

Renato, who also has played for Gremio, Botafogo and AS Roma, has outstanding ball control as well as a long history of rows with trainers, because of his liking for night life, fast cars and some of the country's top models.

Before he left Cruzeiro, however, he helped them to yet another title, the Minas Gerais State League. They beat America (MG) 2-0 in the second leg of the final, for a 5-2 aggregate.

The international dairy products firm, Parmalat, who sponsor four leading clubs — Boca Juniors (Argentina), Penarol (Uruguay), Parma (Italy) and Palmeiras (Sao Paulo) — invested two million dollars in two players to strengthen the Brazilian club. They are defenders Antonio Carlos (Albacete) and Roberto Carlos (Uniao Sao Rocha, Brazil).

ERIC **WEIL**

Off to France . . . national captain Rai.

On the ball . . . German Pinillos of Peru and Victor Pacheco of Colombia (dark shorts).

BOB PATEMAN examines the past record of Ivory Coast, the African champions

Worthy of the title

Top squad . . . the Ivory Coast celebrate victory in the 1992 African Nations' Cup.

IVORY COAST have just completed a year as African champions, after winning the Nations' Cup last January.

Mark Gleeson, the *WORLD SOCCER* correspondent at the finals in Senegal, described Ivory Coast's victory as "a breath of fresh air in the power struggle for supremacy in Africa" — even though their progress was laboured.

Their five matches resulted 3-0, 1-0, 1-0 after extra time, 3-1 on penalties after a goalless semi-final, and then a remarkable 11-10 penalty defeat of Ghana in the final, again after a 0-0 finish in normal time.

Success was perhaps overdue for Ivory Coast, a country of only five million inhabitants but with a reputation for producing good teams. The Elephants had reached three previous semi-finals in the African Nations' Cup, lacking little apart from confidence.

Now there are renewed hopes of progress on a wider stage, with qualification for the final part of the World Cup qualifiers already assured.

Football began on the Ivory Coast around the 1920s — a relatively late start. There was a twin influence — the French colonial rulers played their part, but much of the enthusiasm came across the border from Ghana.

By the 1930s there was a solid base of local clubs, and a national stadium was built in 1938. The French donated a trophy for a domestic competition, and Ivory Coast clubs competed in the AFO Cup — a regional event for the enormous French West Africa administrative area. Senegal clubs dominated the event, but Ivory Coast provided several finalists, and one, Africa Sports, triumphed in 1958.

Ivory Coast emerged as a more consistent force during the 1960s. The national team took third place in the 1965 and '68 Nations' Cup, and reached the semi-finals again in 1970. The inspiration behind this success, Pokou, is still remembered as one of the most deadly goal poachers Africa has produced. He hit six goals in '68 to equal the tournament record, and eight the following year.

During the same spell Ivory Coast clubs performed well in club competitions, with Stade d'Abidjan winning the Champions' Cup in 1966. Since then, however, Ivory Coast clubs have had little success in African events.

This is ironic, as their domestic league is known as one of the strongest in Africa.

With the Ivory Coast economy if not booming at least not falling apart, many African players have been drawn to Abidjan in search of a higher standard of living. Over the years players such as Alex Chola, Peter Kaumba, Henry Nwosu, Stephen Keshi and Rashidi Yekini have appeared in the colours of the top Abidjan clubs.

Unfortunately the imported players do not have the same intense loyalty to a club that comes from local boys, who have spent all their lives dreaming of playing for ASEC or Africa Sports.

Another weakness of the league is that it does not serve the whole country, but has been dominated by a few sides from Abidjan.

Ironically while Ivory Coast attract top players from other African nations, they have been losing theirs to Europe, and particularly to France. This has often caused friction. Youssouf Fofana's move to Cannes was particularly bitter.

In 1984 Ivory Coast hosted the Nations' Cup finals. This was the first time the tournament had attracted wide media coverage, and it was perhaps the first that can truly be considered an "international" event.

In many ways the country got things out of proportion, and the home side were under tremendous pressure to win. They started well enough,thanks largely to Fofana, at 17 years and eight months the youngest player to appear in the tournament. Eventually, however, they lost to a good Cameroon side. If Fofana had scored in the third minute rather than hit a post, the Ivorians might have done better, but a goal by Milla shattered them, and Djonkep's second was almost incidental.

The tournament ended with the authorities having to give away tickets to fill the stadium for the final, and Ivory Coast football appeared to be heading back to obscurity.

That was not the case. President Houphouet Boigny put a considerable amount of money into supporting the team, and the authorities showed their determination to build for the future by sending the squad on a training tour of Brazil.

The passage to Cairo and the 1986 Nations' Cup was both difficult and controversial. When Ivory Coast overcame Ghana — Fofana scoring two — there were street riots, and Ivorians in Ghana were attacked. Ghana, fearing reprisals, took the precaution of evacuating many of their nationals from Ivory Coast.

Fofana and company still won through, and the team who went to Cairo were certainly more relaxed than the team who failed to cope with the home pressures. Most importantly they had found a striking partner for Fofana in Abdoulaye Traore, who lobbed the ball over the goalkeeper in the opening game against Mozambique, and powerfully headed the decisive goal against Senegal.

In the end the Ivorians were denied in the semi-final by Cameroon, again. N'Kono stopped them from scoring, and Milla hit the goal that eliminated them.

The cheer that the Ivory Coast got as they went on to the pitch to wave to the crowd before the final was a fitting tribute to their football and reputation.

They returned to the African stage the following year for the All- African games . . . and more bad luck.

Having beaten Malawi and Senegal they went out on goal difference, three teams being equal on four points.

In the 1988 Nations' Cup, the team came from behind twice, once alarmingly late, to draw with Algeria and Zaire, and finished with a third point from the hosts, Morocco.

This left them tied with Algeria on both points and goals. They had expected a play-off, but instead went out on the spin of a coin.

Bad luck in two tournaments was followed by indifference in 1990. Ivory Coast scored three goals in their first game, let in three in their next, and were humbled by a Yekini-inspired Nigeria.

Fofana flew in for one game, looked disinterested, and went straight back to France.

Otherwise the most noticeable aspect of the tournament was Gouamene's emergence as the first-choice goalkeeper.

At this time the team also were involved in the World Cup qualifiers, in which they were soon struggling. Having lost early ground to Algeria they never really caught up.

In contrast their qualification for Senegal, and the 1992 Nations' Cup, proved remarkably easy.

Liberia withdrew because of civil war, and Ivory Coast and Morocco had the group sewn up way back in April.

Ivory Coast finished with a win over Morocco — an event that gave the first warning of the title to come. Now the way to the US is clear.

Top individuals . . . Youssouf Fofana (left) and Alain Gouamene.

Elephants lead charge towards 1994 World Cup

Year	Champions	Cup winners
1960	Onze Freres	Espoir de Man
1961	—	Africa Sports
1962	Stade Abidjan	ASEC Abidjan
1963	Stade Abidjan	Jeunesse
1964	ASEC Abidjan	Africa Sports
1965	Stade Abidjan	—
1966	Stade Abidjan	—
1967	Africa Sports	ASEC Abidjan
1968	Africa Sports	ASEC Abidjan
1969	Stade Abidjan	ASEC Abidjan
1970	ASEC Abidjan	ASEC Abidjan
1971	Africa Sports	Stade Abidjan
1972	ASEC Abidjan	ASEC Abidjan
1973	ASEC Abidjan	ASEC Abidjan
1974	ASEC Abidjan	Stella Club
1975	ASEC Abidjan	Stella Club
1976	SC Gagnoa	Stade Abidjan
1977	Africa Sports	Africa Sports
1978	Africa Sports	Africa Sports
1979	Stella Club	Africa Sports
1980	ASEC Abidjan	Reveil Daloa
1981	Stella Club	Africa Sports
1982	Africa Sports	Africa Sports
1983	Africa Sports	ASEC Abidjan
1984	Stella Club	Stade Abidjan
1985	Africa Sports	Africa Sports
1986	Africa Sports	Africa Sports
1987	Africa Sports	ASC Bouake
1988	Africa Sports	ASI Abengouron
1989	Africa Sports	Africa Sports
1990	ASEC Abidjan	SC Gagnoa
1991	ASEC Abidjan	Africa Sports
1992	ASEC Abidjan	Africa Sports

START SAVING!

World Cup tickets go sky-high

By Paul **Gardner**

Pricey . . . the RFK Stadium in Washington is one of the venues for US '94.

YOU will soon be able to buy your World Cup '94 tickets . . . and they're going to make a hole in your wallet.

Cheapest: $25.00 for first round games. Most expensive: $475.00 for the final. But there's a catch: it is very unlikely that you'll be able to buy any single tickets! Read on.

The tickets come in three price ranges: Category 1, the expensive ones; Category 2, the mid-range prices; and Category 3, the cheap ones, which aren't all that cheap. Approximately one million of the tickets are in the "cheap" Category 3.

The ticket plan for World Cup '94 was announced in New York, where head honcho Alan Rothenberg described it as a plan that "serves the millions of soccer fans as well as World Cup USA's revenue requirements."

FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter added his blessings: "The 3.6 million tickets on sale is the largest number ever available for a World Cup . . . FIFA is convinced every ticket will be sold."

Of the 3.6 million tickets, 2.3 million (65%) will be sold within the United States, 1.3 million (35%) will be distributed for sale internationally.

True to its pledge to look after the American soccer community, World Cup '94 has begun ticket sales with a special private offering to members of the United States "soccer family".

Coaches, players, administrators and referees who are registered with the United States Soccer Federation already have received a brochure offering them tickets at discounts of between 9% and 22%.

The tickets on offer are all for the first and second rounds.

The special rates last only until the end of March. The next stage begins in June: sales to the general public within the US. Again, only the first and second rounds are available.

Tickets will be sold through a special ticket agency, which will accept mail and telephone orders.

Sometime in the autumn of this year, tickets for the rest of the games — quarter-finals, semi-finals, third place game and final — will go on sale. No discounts for the "soccer family" here. Tickets will be available to everyone on a computerised "equal access" basis.

The catch? The first and second round tickets cannot be bought as single tickets. They must be bought in strips of five for a specific venue. Thus, a buyer who wants to attend games in Washington DC, has to buy a ticket for all four first-round games at RFK Stadium, plus the second-round match.

Five tickets add up to $125.00 — plus an extra $15 for the opening game at RFK, which will feature an opening ceremony. Total: $140.00.

Every stadium will feature a $15.00 opening ceremony at its first game. Except that the big one, the real opening bash, will be in Chicago, where you'll pay $25 for the ceremony. So that a ticket-package for Chicago will cost $150.

Those are for the cheapest seats, Category 3.

Category 2 prices are $265 for Chicago, $245 elsewhere. Category 1: $400 for Chicago, $355 elsewhere. Of course, there's an exception. Detroit, which has only four games, no second-round match.

Prices there are Category 3, $105, Category 2 $185, and Category 1 $270.

The second catch concerns the prices for the final game, which are quoted as $180, $300 and $475.

In fact, tickets just for the final will not be on sale. You want a ticket for the final? OK — but you have to buy a ticket for the third-place game, too.

They cost $60, $100, and $125. Which puts the price of Final tickets up to: Category 3, $240; Category 2, $400, and Category 1, $600.

To attend all four first-round games in one venue, plus a second-round match, quarter-final, sem-final, third-place game, and the final will cost you — if you're a Category 3 person — $525 for nine games. If you're up there with the Category 1 elite, then you'll cough up $1,395 — an average of $155 per game.

As for sales outside the US, they will not begin before June 1993 at the earliest. World Cup '94 is in the process of setting up a company, to be called World Cup Travel Services.

This company will then authorise selected tour-operating companies in foreign countries to act as official agents for tickets and package tours.

Tickets also will be available through each country's Football Association. Full ticket allocations to each country cannot be made until it is known whether that country has either qualified for, or been eliminated from, the tournament.

There is one other stage in ticket sales: starting in February 1994 and continuing up to June, any tickets so far unsold will be available . . . on an individual ticket basis.

So 3.6 million tickets at an average price of $58.00 means an income of $208.8 million. It won't be quite that high because a certain number of tickets will go at discounted rates to sponsors etc.

World Cup '94 will be satisfied with a take of $200 million, of which they can bank half. The other $100 million has already been guaranteed to FIFA. According to Rothenberg, World Cup '94 is hoping to make a profit of $25 million on the tournament. This compares with the $12 million profit that the Italians recently declared in their much delayed balance-sheet for Italia '90.

TIMETABLE FOR WORLD CUP '94 TICKET SALES

Until March 31, 1993
US: Private sale to United States soccer community of tickets for first and second round games.

June 1993
US: Public sale of tickets to first and second round games.

June 1993
INTERNATIONAL: earliest date for sale of tickets to first and second round games.

Autumn 1993
US & INTERNATIONAL: sale of tickets to quarter-finals, semi-finals, third-place game and final.

February 1994
US & INTERNATIONAL: sale of any individual tickets still available.

PRICE RANGE *(in $$)*

Categories:	1	2	3
Opening game (Chicago)	120	70	40
First game at other venues	75	50	30
First round	65	45	25
Second round	85	60	35
Quarter-finals	140	80	55
Semi-finals	300	200	90
Final & third-place game	600	400	240

COMPARISON

	Italia '90	USA '94
First round	$13 to $83	$25 to $75
Quarter-final	$15 to $112	$55 to $140
Semi-final	$19 to $150	$90 to $300
Final	$23 to $175	$180 to $475

INTERNATIONAL GUIDE TO PRICES
(exchange rates at February 1993)

	First round	SF	Final
USA	25-65	90-300	180-475
EC *(ecu)*	21-54	75-250	150-398
ITALY *(lire)*	38,400-100,000	138,000-460,000	276,000-730,000
FRANCE *(franc)*	137-357	495-1650	990-2612
GERMANY *(mark)*	41-107	148-495	297-784
JAPAN *(yen)*	3100-8060	11,160-37,200	22,320-59,000
BRITAIN *(pound)*	17-45	62-207	124-328
SPAIN *(peso)*	2900-7540	10,440-34,800	20,900-55,000
ARGENTINA *(peso)*	25-64	89-297	178-470
BRAZIL* *(cruzeiro)*	433-1126	1560-5200	3200-8230

** = Brazilian cruzeiros are in thousands.*

Keller's on course for the top

AS a student of sociology, Kasey Keller could not have chosen a more fascinating test case for his practical work than a career with Millwall FC.

For all their efforts to endear themselves to the community around London's docklands with enterprises such as a creche on match days, Millwall remain better — or worse — known for the hooligans that besmirch their name.

The contradiction is not entirely erased by the bright, positive football with which the club have stayed true to their principles on the pitch, at least.

To Keller, who returns to the University of Portland in the summer for the six classes that will complete his four-year sociology course, it is a lifestyle full of curious contrasts.

He is now acquainted with the favourite chants of "We are Millwall, no-one likes us but we don't care," from the home terraces.

"I've had some good laughs from the things I've seen and heard," he said. "I could analyse the social aspects of professional football in England but I haven't written a thesis or anything like that. If I did, I'd have to be careful about the people I was writing about."

Keller wanted to be a professional sportsman from his days as a second-grade pupil at elementary school in Olympia, some 60 miles south of Seattle. But he did not know which sport until he was later

ALL-AMERICAN BOYS

***WORLD SOCCER* talks to John Harkes, Roy Wegerle and Kasey Keller — three of Bora Milutinovic's squad playing in Europe**

Follow us if you aim to succeed

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY'S all-American hero John Harkes feels his international colleagues must follow his lead if the US are to make their mark on the world scene.

Midfielder Harkes is one of 12 Americans furthering their football education in Europe, and he urges his California-based colleagues: "Come and join us."

US coach Bora Milutinovic has called together 20 players at the country's first, permanent training site at Mission Viejo.

But when the time comes for him to select his squad for the 1994 competition, the Europeans will be the favoured group — and rightly so according to Harkes, a 25-year-old with 42 caps: "It is good having the base in California but it is the players in Europe who are getting the best education.

"We are benefitting from the experience of playing against some of the best players in Europe and, not only is that good for the individual, but the national team too.

"And, while I know some of the lads are happy to stay in the US, I urge them to try their luck in Europe. I certainly have no regrets.

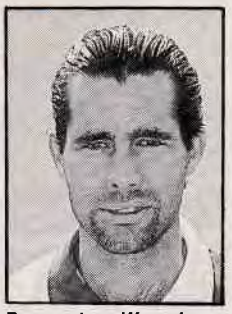
"I'm sure clubs will be interested in taking on more Americans if we have a successful tournament in 1994."

After a difficult settling in period at Hillsborough, Harkes feels his game has improved beyond compare. The experience of playing in the 1990 World Cup was also a key factor.

"Italia 90 was all part of the learning process for everyone," he explains.

"Hopefully, with all the work that is being put in to improving the squad, we can make a bigger impact next time."

Plea . . . Harkes.



Prospect . . . Wegerle.

Still not too late for an Italian job

ROY WEGERLE'S long-awaited decision to pledge his allegiance to the United States gave the national squad a shot in the arm of Clintonesque proportions.

Wegerle, having played at the highest level for much of his seven-year spell in England with Chelsea, Luton, QPR and now Blackburn, is far and away the most experienced player the Americans have.

Yet while his elegant skills and growing knowledge of the game make him a priceless international asset, he believes he could offer the US a lot more if he *was not* playing in England.

South African-born Wegerle says that English fans haven't seen the best of him because the pace of the game has made it difficult, at times impossible, for him to play the "Wegerle Way".

"My style is not particularly well suited to British football and it has been difficult for me to produce my best on a regular basis," he says.

"The pace of the game in the Premier League, as with the old First Division, is such that there is little or no time on the ball. You hardly have time to think out there.

"And while I feel I have done as well as I can in England, I believe I would have had a better career on the continent.

"It has always been my dream to play in the Serie A, where more emphasis is placed on skill and technical ability."

Italy is one European country yet to be infiltrated by a member of the US national squad. Americans are gradually spreading their wings to Holland, England, Germany and Spain.

Wegerle still has designs on becoming the first to take the Italian League by storm: "It is getting a bit late in the day at 28 for that to happen.

"But I haven't given up hope yet and should the opportunity present itself I would certainly take it."

Wegerle's domestic plight is summed up by the fact that, despite playing under a manager in Kenny Dalglish who admires and respects his individual talents, the player can still not be guaranteed a regular place.

That seems to have been the case for much longer than Wegerle cares to remember, and it is surprising that he has allowed himself to be cast as a bit-part player for so long.

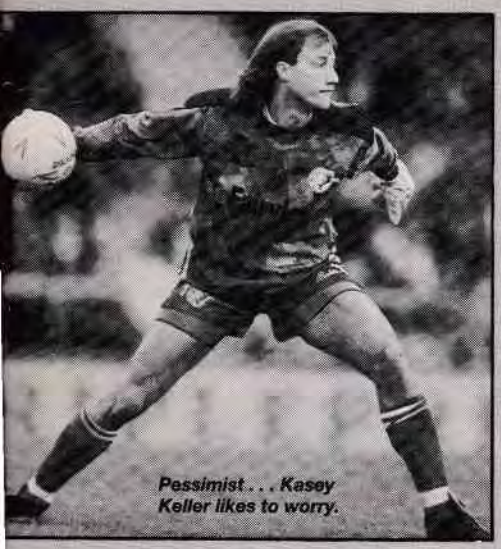
On the international front he feels his talents are more appreciated by the US coach Bora Milutinovic, a Yugoslav with a penchant for panache.

That understanding holds the key to Wegerle's decision to join forces with the Americans at the expense of England — just one of his options.

"Milutinovic acknowledges and appreciates my type of player more than Graham Taylor," he explains.

"That is a very important thing for me."

DAVE **SMITH**



Pessimist . . . Kasey Keller likes to worry.

guided by two Englishmen — both formerly of West Ham United — Clive Charles and Bobby Howe.

Charles, the university coach, and Howe, coach of the Washington State team, convinced young Keller that he had a special aptitude for goalkeeping.

The consequence is that their protege has joined the rapidly growing list of Americans making their names in Europea. Roy Wegerle and John Harkes have done so with Blackburn and Sheffield Wednesday respectively. In Spain, Tab Ramos has featured prominently as Tom Dooley has done in Germany.

All of them, along with Tony Meola, are candidates for America's World Cup squad.

Meola, Keller's rival in goal, has returned home to become more readily available for the national team. But whereas the first signs are that Keller has made the grade in England, Meola failed to last the course at the same level with either Brighton or Watford.

"I feel that my own game has improved ten-fold," Keller said. "If Tony was here it would be helping his game more than at home. It would help any goalkeeper."

Keller's move to Europe transpired because Bruce Rioch, then Millwall's manager, had exploited some contacts made during his days as coach to Seattle Sounders.

He discovered that the boy flinging himself around local goalmouths had blossomed into a flamboyant, fearless shot-stopper with a style not unlike Bruce Grobbelaar.

Oldham and Manchester City were among the other interested parties but Keller's desire to establish himself, albeit even at a slightly lower level, gave Millwall the edge.

"I'm a worst-case-scenario type of person before games," says Keller, quaintly.

"I might give myself an ulcer, but I like to worry."

He worries more in London than he ever did back home. No matter how many indifferent games Keller might have had in the three-month, 20-game college season there, only half of which provided a true test, he remained virtually sure of his place. In England it is entirely different.

"You have to stay on top of your game. Even if you're 4-0 up in the last few minutes, people will be watching to see how you might react to a little bit of pressure. You have to keep your concentration."

His has scarcely wavered, and the reward has been that regular first-team place and the beckoning Premier League.

"I didn't think I could make an impact in such a quick time," he says.

"I expected to do well but I didn't expect such a rapid rise.

"I wanted to be a player other clubs would want. I needed to do well to get my work permit renewed. I wanted to prove I belonged here.

"Clive Charles always said it was easy to get to the top. The hard part was staying there."

NICHOLAS **HARLING**

Crash! Canadian League collapses

THE Canadian Soccer League, which started operating with high hopes only six years ago, has folded — the latest in a long line of professional and semi-professional soccer competitions to collapse in Canada and the United States.

The CSL began in 1986, after Canada had qualified for the World Cup finals for the first time. Eight teams played in two divisions, east and west. By 1990 the league had expanded to 11 teams, but then the decline started.

Last season the six remaining teams struggled on in one division and eventually small attendances, plus the travelling costs, spelled disaster.

On October 7 last year, Vancouver 86ers, the most successful CSL club, announced that they had joined the American Professional Soccer League for 1993. Toronto Blizzard and Montreal Supra applied to follow shortly afterwards.

When Blizzard were accepted into the APSL early in January, joining a still-to-be-named Montreal team (not Supra) and London Lazers ceased operating, the CSL were left with two teams, North York Rockets and Winnipeg Fury. Those two then joined the National Soccer League, which has survived through thick and thin since 1926, to form the Canadian National Soccer League.

The NSL was strongest in the 20s and 30s, on a par with the American Soccer League of those days, and has outlasted many more ambitious leagues.

Fury and Rockets join Toronto Croatia, Toronto Italia, Windsor Wheels, London City, Brampton Jets, Richmond Hill Kick, Woodbridge and St. Catherines in a ten-club organisation.

Meanwhile the three Canadian clubs who have moved find themselves in a league that is anything but stable. The APSL — 22 teams as recently as 1990 — will operate with seven this year, the Canadians joining Colorado Foxes, Fort Lauderdale Strikers, Los Angeles Salsa and Tampa Bay Rowdies. The situation will not help the national squad who have reached the final round of the CONCACAF World Cup qualifiers — in April.

COLIN **JOSE**

Australia's Ned Zelic on target against Holland in a 1992 Olympic qualifier.

Rufer's treble, Zelic's first

WYNTON RUFER'S goalscoring exploits during Werder Bremen's European Cup-winners' Cup triumph earned him the 1992 Oceania Footballer of the Year accolade.

New Zealand striker Rufer also had topped the poll in 1989 and 1990.

Ned Zelic, who featured prominently throughout Australia's remarkable run to the Olympic semi-finals, was runner-up, eight points behind Rufer.

France's Tahitian winger, Pascal Vahirua, gained third place despite a miserable European Championship campaign.

Zelic won the Australian Footballer of the Year Award, open to individuals from all football codes. His success is a significant milestone in soccer's development, as rugby and Australian Rules players had monopolised the award until now.

Eastern still rising

SOUTH CHINA'S long dominance of Hong Kong soccer has ended. They have not recovered from the shock of being beaten 5-0 by Eastern on the 1992-93 season's opening day.

That astonishing result began an Eastern winning streak which had been extended to eight games by the time the pair met again in the Camel Paint Challenge Shield final.

Despite losing influential midfielder Tim O'Shea through injury after two minutes, Eastern were four up by half-time.

Paul Nixon opened the scoring in the 11th minute, and an own goal by Koo Kam Fui, and conventional shots from Lee Kin Wo and Ross Greer added to South China's troubles.

Greer was then sent off for butting, but Eastern sat on their lead with little trouble, and the second half produced no more goals.

Eastern's victory, their first major success for six years, should be followed soon. They have opened up a healthy lead in the League and, on current form, are odds-on to capture all the other knock-out tournaments this term.

For South China, in mid-table and reputed to be having internal problems, the remainder of the season holds little in prospect but an opportunity to rebuild.

THE forthcoming World Youth Cup in Australia will be a huge success if the recent SBS Youth Challenge Cup Series is any indication.

Sydney's Marconi Stadium was crammed to capacity and a further 2,000 outside watched on closed-circuit TV as Australia and Brazil's Under-19 selections contested the decider.

A penalty shoot-out, won 5-4 by the South Americans, was needed to separate the teams after 120 minutes of enthralling football had ended in a 1-1 draw.

The hosts had opened with a 1-0 win in Freemantle, only for Brazil to draw level 2-1 at Canberra. A scoreless draw in Newcastle then set the scene for the Sydney decider.

POHANG'S 3-1 victory over Ilhwa in the penultimate round of the season was the key to their South Korean Professional League title.

Both won their remaining game and Ilhwa, despite having the better goal difference, finished a single point behind.

Ilhwa, gained consolation when winning the Adidas Cup — a competition devised to compensate professional teams for being barred from South Korea's traditional knock-out tournaments.

After being held to a 2-2 draw by Lucky Gold Star in the final, Ilhwa won the replay 2-1.

Singapore

Old Cup is a new success

EUROPEAN teams were forced to concede superiority to Asian opposition when Singapore's Merlion Cup was revived after six years.

Only Russia's Moscow Lokomotiv reached the semi-final. The other two, Poland's Olympic selection and Nitra (making history as the last team to represent the unified Czechoslovakia in an international competition), were both eliminated in the first round.

China then took care of Lokomotiv 3-1 to qualify for the final against South Korea's B side, but in an ill-tempered affair (five players were booked, four of them Chinese) the ever-resilient Koreans triumphed 3-1.

The Chinese gained little consolation from having the Player of the Tournament (Hao Haidong) and the top scorer (Gao Hongbo) in their ranks.

The event was a huge financial success, due largely to Singapore's run to the semi-finals, where only a South Korean goal in extra time stopped them.

The Singapore FA now intend to stage the Cup every second year.

The Semi-Professional League champions, Pahang, added the Malaysia Cup to their trophy cabinet when defeating Kedah 1-0 in the final.

The expensively accumulated Pahang team, coached by Englishman Mike Brown, fully deserved their victory but had to thank an early defensive error for it.

Kedah goalkeeper Azmi Mahmud missed the ball as he went out to clear from Pahang's Australian defender, Alan Davidson, allowing Zulhamizan Zakaria to gain possession with an empty net in front of him. There were no further goals.

MERLION CUP WINNERS

1982	Australia
1983	Australia
1984	Iraq
1985	Yugoslav XI
1986	China

PAUL **MOON**

Japan

Pirouzi snatch

PIROUZI of Iran and Nissan Yokhama Marinos of Japan fought a 1-1 draw in the first leg of the third Asian Cup-winners' Cup final in Tokyo (right).

But Pirouzi's away goal increases confidence in their regaining the trophy when the home leg is rescheduled. Pirouzi won the first tournament, and Nissan won last year.

Both teams have lost key players since those victories.

Nissan have transferred national captain Tetsuji Hashiratani to Yomiuri Verdy and striker Koichi Hashiratani to Urawa Red Diamonds.

Pirouzi's Mojtâba Moharrami and Farshad Peyoos are both banned for a year after attacking a referee in the Asian Cup. Mahmoud Kalhour has been banned, by his club, for being arrested in a prostitute's company, and Saeid Azizian is out with a broken leg.

Khalkhorn snatched the lead in the 56th minute, but Marinos fought back and Renato made amends for an early miss by equalising eight minutes from time.

The Tokyo match should have been the second leg, but the first was postponed due to heavy snow after Marinos had made the long trip to Tehran. A new date has not yet been fixed.

Marinos already have booked their passage for the fourth Cup-winners' Cup. They beat Yomiuri Verdy 2-1 in the Emperor's Cup Final.

Oscar of Arabia

OSCAR (above), veteran of three World Cups as a Brazil player, is heading back to Asia. He has been appointed manager of the 1992 Asian club champions, Al-Hilal of Saudi Arabia.

He went to Japan in 1987, and as player and then player-manager led Nissan to two championships and the League, League Cup and Emperor's Cup triple crown in 1989. After returning to Brazil in 1990, on account of his mother's illness, he took charge of Sao Paulo's second team.

MIKE PLASTOW AND MICHI ISHIJIMA

an advantage

JAPAN'S World Cup Committee want to host the 2002 World Cup in 16 stadiums, if FIFA decide to stage the tournament in that country.

According to the JFA, the more sites the better for Japanese football nationwide. The relatively small size and advanced transport systems should reduce transport problems to a minimum.

Tokyo is the expected candidate for the main arena, the current idea being to renovate the old Olympic stadium, which has a present capacity of 60,000. The other sites are: Sapporo, Aomori, Miyagi, Niigata, Ibaraki, Saitama, Chiba, Yokohama, Shizuoka, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, Hiroshima and Oita.

JAPAN'S Big Two, Nissan and Yomiuri, maintained their intense rivalry when contesting the 1993 Emperor's Cup Final.

There is no love lost between them, and three players from each side were booked on this occasion.

Yomiuri, eager to revenge last year's 4-1 defeat, dominated for long periods and the 11-4 corner count reflected their advantage in terms of possession.

But Nissan's tenacious defence proved decisive. Nissan striker Mizunuma Takashi opened the scoring after 74 minutes, and Nakamura Tadashi levelled after 81.

The winner came shortly before the break in extra time when Nissan's Kumura Kazushi created the chance that enabled substitute Jinno Takoya to put his name into the record books.

Only once since 1983 has a team other than Yomiuri or Nissan won the Emperor's Cup. But this near-stranglehold is unlikely to continue into Japan's long-anticipated new era, which begins with the J League's kick-off on May 15.

Iraq

A 69-match season

A CHANGE in the structure of Iraqi football means that the 24 First Division clubs now have to play a 69-game season, with every team meeting each other three times.

Iraq is very much a soccer-conscious country, despite political problems, but the current experiment has caused much ill-feeling among players and fans, who think that there is just too much football being played.

Zewra, who missed the championship by a point last season, led after the first third of the current season, one point ahead of the defending title-holders, Air Force.

International striker Ahmed Rady (right), who scored 33 goals for Zewra last season, has been in even better form, with 25 already. Ahmed Deham (Kerkh), Adnan Hamed (Samara) and Akram Emanuel (Air Force) all had 17.

IRAQ

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zewra	23	18	4	1	59	17	40
Air Force	23	17	5	1	48	13	39
Talaba	23	14	7	2	45	13	35
Kerkh	23	13	5	5	43	21	31
Shurta	23	10	9	4	34	16	29
Jaish	23	10	8	5	32	21	28
Naft	23	9	9	5	30	27	27
Nejaf	23	8	9	6	33	28	25
Sala Deen	23	7	10	6	29	23	24
Samara	23	10	4	9	40	35	24
Sena	23	10	4	9	27	22	24
Tejara	23	7	9	7	25	29	23
Mena	23	7	8	8	21	26	22
Ramady	23	6	9	8	23	28	21
Koot	23	5	10	8	17	21	20
Amana	23	5	10	8	21	31	20
Air Lines	23	7	5	11	19	25	18
Arbeel	23	5	8	10	26	35	18
Diwania	23	4	8	11	20	27	16
Mousil	23	4	7	12	19	24	15
Kerkook	23	2	10	11	16	36	14
Ahly	23	4	6	13	22	54	14
Shebab	23	1	10	12	18	37	12
Selam	23	2	8	13	8	36	12

KHAREEM **MUHSIN**

Qatar & UAE

Qatar narrow the Gulf gap

LITTLE Qatar went into the record books by winning the Gulf Cup for the first time.

They took 15 points from their ten games in the six-nation event in Doha, where capacity crowds, outstanding organisation, good behaviour and exciting football combined to make up a memorable event.

A Brazilian, Sebastiao Lapola, took over as coach of Qatar from his fellow-countryman, Evaristo Macedu, who quit after the Olympics and returned to his native country and a club post at Santos.

Lapola, manager of one of Qatar's leading clubs, Al Sadd, pulled his squad together after their early exit from the Asian Nations' Cup in Japan, and the standard of the play surprised all their opponents.

Four of their players — goalkeeper Ahmed Khalil, defenders Hamad Mubarak and Adel Malallah, and striker Mustapha Mubarak — were in the "Best XI" chosen by officials and media after the tournament, and Mustapha Mubarak was named the outstanding individual.

Qatar won with a match to spare, successive victories over Oman (2-0), Kuwait (4-0), United Arab Emirates (1-0) and Bahrain (1-0) putting them beyond catching.

Only a surprise 1-0 defeat in the last match marred their record, and allowed Saudi Arabia to finish third.

Bahrain were second, their 2-1 defeat of the Saudis giving them the advantage after both teams had finished with identical records.

UAE, now coached by Poland's Anton Piechnizek (above), were fourth, Kuwait — seven times winners in the ten previous events — were fifth, and Oman last without a point.

Piechnizek, Polish coach in two World Cups, replaced Ukrainian Valeri Lobanovski, dismissed after the UAE's poor show in the Asian Nations' Cup. Iraq, the only other previous winners, were banned from competing this time because of the political situation, which continued to worsen after the tournament and resulted in further military action by allied forces against Saddam Hussein.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Qatar	5	4	0	1	8	1	8
Bahrain	5	3	0	2	6	4	6
Saudi Arabia	5	3	0	2	6	4	6
UAE	5	3	0	2	4	3	6
Kuwait	5	2	0	3	5	8	4
Oman	5	0	0	5	1	10	0

Previous tournaments

Year	Winners	Hosts
1970	Kuwait	Bahrain
1972	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia
1974	Kuwait	Kuwait
1976	Kuwait	Qatar
1979	Iraq	Iraq
1982	Kuwait	UAE
1984	Iraq	Oman
1986	Kuwait	Bahrain
1988	Iraq	Saudi Arabia
1990	Kuwait	Kuwait

MOHAMMED **CHBARRO**

India

Inchon keep the tradition

THE Inchon University team from South Korea maintained foreign supremacy in India's DCM tournament, beating East Bengal of Calcutta in the final.

This was the tenth successive time that the event had been won by a club from outside India. East Bengal were the last home winners, in 1984.

Six teams from Delhi, the host city, were among the 13 who took part in the qualifying tournament, which produced two to go through into the quarter-finals with six others, previously seeded.

These eight played in two groups of four to arrive at the semi-finals, in which Inchon beat Border Security Force 2-1 and East Bengal defeated Mohammedan Sporting 2-0.

East Bengal seemed likely winners in the final, after Mustaq Ali's goal on the half-hour. Only two minutes remained when Korean defender Kim Dae Sik moved up to equalise, and the dispirited Bengal squad then succumbed 4-1 on penalties.

Ironically the last shot was missed by Kuljit Singh, who had scored five of his team's seven goals in their four games before the final.

G.C. **DAS**

Al Wasl are first winners

AL WASL won the first FA Cup competition staged in the United Arab Emirates, beating Al Ahly 2-0 in the final in Dubai.

The tournament was played on a league basis between the 12 First Division clubs, in two groups of six, and the leaders met in the one-off final.

Both Al Wasl and Al Ahly took 15 points from their ten games to qualify with three points to spare.

Group One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Wasl	10	7	1	2	31	14	15
Al Wehda	10	4	4	2	16	11	12
Al Ain	10	4	2	4	20	17	10
Al Nasr	10	4	2	4	15	14	10
Bani Yas	10	3	2	5	14	28	8
Kalbaa Utd	10	2	1	7	7	19	5

Group Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Al Ahly	10	7	1	2	20	8	15
Al Shabab	10	5	2	3	15	10	12
Al Jazira	10	3	4	3	9	10	10
Al Khalij	10	4	1	5	15	16	9
Sharjah	10	3	3	4	10	17	9
Al Ourouba	10	1	3	6	10	18	5

SNICKERS BRAND
m&m's BRAND
Mars BRAND

World Cup USA1994 Official Snack Food

© MARS' 1992

M&M's, SNICKERS and MARS, official sponsors of the 1994 World Cup, bring you the latest World Cup results

1994 WORLD CUP QUALIFYING GROUPS

EUROPE

38 entries (39 members, Liechtenstein withdrew)

● *Top two teams in each Group qualify for finals (Germany qualify as holders).*

GROUP 1

16.08.92	Estonia v Switzerland	0-6
09.09.92	Switzerland v Scotland	3-1
14.10.92	Italy v Switzerland	2-2
14.10.92	Scotland v Portugal	0-0
25.10.92	Malta v Estonia	0-0
18.11.92	Scotland v Italy	0-0
18.11.92	Switzerland v Malta	3-0
19.12.92	Malta v Italy	1-2
24.01.93	Malta v Portugal	0-1
17.02.93	Scotland v Malta	
24.02.93	Portugal v Italy	
24.03.93	Italy v Malta	
31.03.93	Switzerland v Portugal	
14.04.93	Italy v Estonia	
17.04.93	Malta v Switzerland	
28.04.93	Portugal v Scotland	
01.05.93	Switzerland v Italy	
12.05.93	Estonia v Malta	
19.05.93	Estonia v Scotland	
02.06.93	Scotland v Estonia	
19.06.93	Portugal v Malta	
05.09.93	Estonia v Portugal	
08.09.93	Scotland v Switzerland	
22.09.93	Estonia v Italy	
13.10.93	Portugal v Switzerland	
13.10.93	Italy v Scotland	
10.11.93	Portugal v Estonia	
17.11.93	Italy v Portugal	
17.11.93	Malta v Scotland	
17.11.93	Switzerland v Estonia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	4	3	1	0	14	3	7
Italy	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
Portugal	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Scotland	3	0	2	1	1	3	2
Malta	4	0	1	3	1	6	1
Estonia	2	0	1	1	0	6	1

GROUP 2

09.09.92	Norway v San Marino	10-0
23.09.92	Norway v Holland	2-1
23.09.92	Poland v Turkey	1-0
07.10.92	San Marino v Norway	0-2
14.10.92	England v Norway	1-1
14.10.92	Holland v Poland	2-2
28.10.92	Turkey v San Marino	4-1
18.11.92	England v Turkey	4-0
16.12.92	Turkey v Holland	1-3
17.02.93	England v San Marino	
24.02.93	Holland v Turkey	
10.03.93	San Marino v Turkey	
24.03.93	Holland v San Marino	
31.03.93	Turkey v England	
28.04.93	England v Holland	
28.04.93	Norway v Turkey	
28.04.93	Poland v San Marino	
19.05.93	San Marino v Poland	
29.05.93	Poland v England	
02.06.93	Norway v England	
09.06.93	Holland v Norway	
08.09.93	England v Poland	
22.09.93	Norway v Poland	
22.09.93	San Marino v Holland	
13.10.93	Holland v England	
13.10.93	Poland v Norway	
27.10.93	Turkey v Poland	
10.11.93	Turkey v Norway	
16.11.93	San Marino v England	
17.11.93	Poland v Holland	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	4	3	1	0	15	2	7
England	2	1	1	0	5	1	3
Holland	3	1	1	1	6	5	3
Poland	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Turkey	4	1	0	3	5	9	2
San Marino	3	0	0	3	1	16	0

GROUP 3

22.04.92	Spain v Albania	3-0
28.04.92	Northern Ireland v Lithuania	2-2
26.05.92	Rep. of Ireland v Albania	2-0
03.06.92	Albania v Lithuania	1-0
12.08.92	Latvia v Lithuania	1-2
26.08.92	Latvia v Denmark	0-0
09.09.92	Rep. of Ireland v Latvia	4-0
09.09.92	Northern Ireland v Albania	3-0
23.09.92	Latvia v Spain	0-0
23.09.92	Lithuania v Denmark	0-0
14.10.92	Denmark v Rep. of Ireland	0-0
14.10.92	Northern Ireland v Spain	0-0
28.10.92	Lithuania v Latvia	1-1
11.11.92	Albania v Latvia	1-1
18.11.92	Northern Ireland v Denmark	0-1
18.11.92	Spain v Rep. of Ireland	0-0
16.12.92	Spain v Latvia	5-0
17.02.93	Albania v Northern Ireland	
24.02.93	Spain v Lithuania	
31.03.93	Denmark v Spain	
31.03.93	Rep. of Ireland v Northern Ireland	
14.04.93	Denmark v Latvia	
14.04.93	Lithuania v Albania	
28.04.93	Rep. of Ireland v Denmark	
28.04.93	Spain v Northern Ireland	
15.05.93	Latvia v Albania	
25.05.93	Lithuania v Northern Ireland	
26.05.93	Albania v Rep. of Ireland	
02.06.93	Denmark v Albania	
02.06.93	Latvia v Northern Ireland	
02.06.93	Lithuania v Spain	
09.06.93	Latvia v Rep. of Ireland	
16.06.93	Lithuania v Rep. of Ireland	
25.08.93	Denmark v Lithuania	
08.09.93	Albania v Denmark	
08.09.93	Rep. of Ireland v Lithuania	
08.09.93	Northern Ireland v Latvia	
22.09.93	Albania v Spain	
13.10.93	Denmark v Northern Ireland	
13.10.93	Rep. of Ireland v Spain	
17.11.93	Northern Ireland v Rep. of Ireland	
17.11.93	Spain v Denmark	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	5	2	3	0	8	0	7
Rep. of Ireland	4	2	2	0	6	0	6
Denmark	4	1	3	0	1	0	5
Lithuania	5	1	3	1	5	5	5
N. Ireland	4	1	2	1	5	3	4
Latvia	7	0	4	3	3	13	4
Albania	5	1	1	3	2	9	3

GROUP 4

22.04.92	Belgium v Cyprus	1-0
06.05.92	Romania v Faroe Islands	7-0
20.05.92	Romania v Wales	5-1
03.06.92	Faroe Islands v Belgium	0-3
18.06.92	Faroe Islands v Cyprus	0-2
02.09.92	Czechoslovakia v Belgium	1-2
09.09.92	Wales v Faroe Islands	6-0
23.09.92	Czechoslovakia v Faroe Islands	4-0
14.10.92	Belgium v Romania	1-0
14.10.92	Cyprus v Wales	0-1
14.11.92	Romania v Czechoslovakia	1-1
18.11.92	Belgium v Wales	2-0
29.11.92	Cyprus v Romania	1-4
13.02.93	Cyprus v Belgium	
24.03.93	Cyprus v Czechoslovakia	
31.03.93	Wales v Belgium	
14.04.93	Romania v Cyprus	
25.04.93	Cyprus v Faroe Islands	
28.04.93	Czechoslovakia v Wales	
22.05.93	Belgium v Faroe Islands	
02.06.93	Czechoslovakia v Romania	
06.06.93	Faroe Islands v Wales	
16.06.93	Faroe Islands v Czechoslovakia	
08.09.93	Wales v Czechoslovakia	
08.09.93	Faroe Islands v Romania	
13.10.93	Romania v Belgium	
13.10.93	Wales v Cyprus	
27.10.93	Czechoslovakia v Cyprus	
17.11.93	Wales v Romania	
17.11.93	Belgium v Czechoslovakia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	5	5	0	0	9	1	10
Romania	5	3	1	1	17	4	7
Wales	4	2	0	2	8	7	4
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	6	3	3
Cyprus	4	1	0	3	3	6	2
Faroe Islands	5	0	0	5	0	22	0

GROUP 5

13.05.92	Greece v Iceland	1-0
03.06.92	Hungary v Iceland	1-2
09.09.92	Luxembourg v Hungary	0-3
07.10.92	Iceland v Greece	0-1
14.10.92	Russia v Iceland	1-0
28.10.92	Russia v Luxembourg	2-0
11.11.92	Greece v Hungary	0-0
17.02.93	Greece v Luxembourg	
31.03.93	Hungary v Greece	
14.04.93	Luxembourg v Russia	
28.04.93	Russia v Hungary	
20.05.93	Russia v Greece	
20.05.93	Luxembourg v Iceland	
02.06.93	Iceland v Russia	
16.06.93	Iceland v Hungary	
08.09.93	Hungary v Russia	
08.09.93	Iceland v Luxembourg	
12.10.93	Luxembourg v Greece	
27.10.93	Hungary v Luxembourg	
17.11.93	Greece v Russia	

★ *Yugoslavia excluded due to UN sanctions.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	3	2	1	0	2	0	5
Russia	2	2	0	0	3	0	4
Hungary	3	1	1	1	4	2	3
Iceland	4	1	0	3	2	4	2
Luxembourg	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

GROUP 6

14.05.92	Finland v Bulgaria	0-3
09.09.92	Bulgaria v France	2-0
09.09.92	Finland v Sweden	0-1
07.10.92	Sweden v Bulgaria	2-0
14.10.92	France v Austria	2-0
28.10.92	Austria v Israel	5-2
11.11.92	Israel v Sweden	1-3
14.11.92	France v Finland	2-1
02.12.92	Israel v Bulgaria	0-2
17.02.93	Israel v France	
27.03.93	Austria v France	
14.04.93	Austria v Bulgaria	
28.04.93	France v Sweden	
28.04.93	Bulgaria v Finland	
12.05.93	Bulgaria v Israel	
13.05.93	Finland v Austria	
19.05.93	Sweden v Austria	
02.06.93	Sweden v Israel	
16.06.93	Finland v Israel	
22.08.93	Sweden v France	
25.08.93	Austria v Finland	
08.09.93	Finland v France	
08.09.93	Bulgaria v Sweden	
13.10.93	France v Israel	
13.10.93	Bulgaria v Austria	
13.10.93	Sweden v Finland	
27.20.93	Israel v Austria	
10.11.93	Austria v Sweden	
10.11.93	Israel v Finland	
17.11.93	France v Bulgaria	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	4	3	0	1	7	2	6
Sweden	3	3	0	0	6	1	6
France	3	2	0	1	4	3	4
Austria	2	1	0	1	5	4	2
Finland	3	0	0	3	1	6	0
Israel	3	0	0	3	3	10	0

Crashing . . . Holland's Rob Witschge is brought down.

AFRICA

37 entries (48 members)

● *Group winners qualify for Second Round of 3 mini leagues of 3 teams each. Winners qualify for finals.*

First Round

GROUP A

09.10.92	Algeria v Burundi	3-1
25.10.92	Burundi v Ghana	1-0
20.12.92	Ghana v Algeria	2-0
17.01.93	Burundi v Algeria	0-0
31.01.93	Ghana v Burundi	1-0
26.02.93	Algeria v Ghana	

★ *Uganda withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ghana	3	2	0	1	3	1	4
Algeria	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Burundi	4	1	1	2	2	4	3

GROUP B

18.10.92	Cameroon v Swaziland	5-0
25.10.92	Swaziland v Zaire	1-0
10.01.93	Zaire v Cameroon	1-2
17.01.93	Swaziland v Cameroon	0-0
31.01.93	Zaire v Swaziland	— postponed
28.02.93	Cameroon v Zaire	

★ *Liberia withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cameroon	3	2	1	0	7	1	5
Swaziland	3	1	1	1	1	5	3
Zaire	2	0	0	2	1	3	0

GROUP C

11.10.92	Egypt v Angola	1-0
11.10.92	Zimbabwe v Togo	1-0
25.10.92	Togo v Egypt	1-4
20.12.92	Zimbabwe v Egypt	2-1
10.01.93	Angola v Zimbabwe	1-1
17.01.93	Togo v Zimbabwe	1-2
18.01.93	Angola v Egypt	0-0
31.01.93	Egypt v Togo	3-0
31.01.93	Zimbabwe v Angola	2-1
14.02.93	Angola v Togo	
28.02.93	Egypt v Zimbabwe	

Scoring . . . Jean-Pierre Papin for France in a 2-1 win against Finland in Paris.

Defending . . . Congo players Somba (1) and Buites during the 1-0 defeat by South Africa.

28.02.93 Togo v Angola
★ *Sierra Leone withdrew, Togo replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Egypt	5	3	1	1	9	3	7
Zimbabwe	4	3	1	0	8	4	7
Angola	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
Togo	4	0	0	4	2	10	0

GROUP D

10.10.92 Nigeria v South Africa 4-0
25.10.92 South Africa v Congo 1-0
20.12.92 Congo v Nigeria 0-1
17.01.93 South Africa v Nigeria 0-0
31.01.93 Congo v South Africa 0-1
27.02.93 Nigeria v Congo
★ *Sao Tome e Principe withdrew, Libya withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nigeria	3	2	1	0	5	0	5
South Africa	4	2	1	1	2	4	5
Congo	3	0	0	3	0	3	0

GROUP E

10.10.92 Ivory Coast v Botswana 6-0
25.10.92 Niger v Ivory Coast 0-0
20.12.92 Botswana v Niger 0-1
17.01.93 Botswana v Ivory Coast 0-0
31.01.93 Ivory Coast v Niger 1-0
28.02.93 Niger v Botswana
★ *Sudan withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IVORY COAST	4	2	2	0	7	0	6
Niger	3	1	1	1	1	1	3
Botswana	3	0	1	2	0	7	1

GROUP F

11.10.92 Morocco v Ethiopia 5-0
11.10.92 Tunisia v Benin 5-1
25.10.92 Ethiopia v Tunisia 0-0
25.10.92 Benin v Morocco 0-1
20.12.92 Tunisia v Morocco 1-1
20.12.92 Ethiopia v Benin 3-1
17.01.93 Ethiopia v Morocco 0-1
17.01.93 Benin v Tunisia 0-5
31.01.93 Tunisia v Ethiopia 3-0
31.01.93 Morocco v Benin 5-0
28.02.93 Benin v Ethiopia
28.02.93 Morocco v Tunisia
★ *Malawi withdrew, Benin replaced them.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morocco	5	4	1	0	13	1	9
Tunisia	5	3	2	0	14	2	8
Ethiopia	5	1	1	3	3	10	3
Benin	5	0	0	5	2	19	0

GROUP G

11.10.92 Gabon v Mozambique 3-1
25.10.92 Mozambique v Senegal 0-1
19.12.92 Gabon v Senegal 3-2
17.02.93 Mozambique v Gabon 1-1
30.01.93 Senegal v Mozambique 6-1
27.02.93 Senegal v Gabon
★ *Mauritania withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Gabon	3	2	1	0	7	4	5
Senegal	3	2	0	1	9	4	4
Mozambique	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

GROUP H

11.01.92 Madagascar v Namibia 3-0
25.10.92 Namibia v Zambia 0-4
20.12.92 Madagascar v Zambia 2-0
17.01.93 Namibia v Madagascar 0-1
30.01.93 Zambia v Namibia 4-0
27.02.93 Zambia v Madagascar
★ *Burkina Faso withdrew and were replaced by Namibia. Tanzania also withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Madagascar	3	3	0	0	6	0	6
Zambia	3	2	0	1	8	2	4
Namibia	4	0	0	4	0	12	0

GROUP I

20.12.92 Guinea v Kenya 4-0
27.02.93 Kenya v Guinea
★ *Gambia & Mali withdrew.*

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Guinea	1	1	0	0	4	0	2
Kenya	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

CONCACAF

23 entries (27 members, Cuba withdrew)
● *Winners of Group A play (home & away) against winners of Group B. Winning nation qualifies for finals. Runners-up play Oceania winners for right to play South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals (United States qualify as hosts).*

Pre-preliminary Round
CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

21.03.92 Dominican Rep. v P. Rico 1-2
22.03.92 St Lucia v St Vincent 1-0
29.03.92 P. Rico v Dominican Rep. 1-1
29.03.92 St Vincent v St Lucia 3-1

Preliminary Round
CARIBBEAN REGION — NORTH

26.04.92 Bermuda v Haiti 1-0
25.05.92 Jamaica v Puerto Rico 2-1
25.05.92 Haiti v Bermuda 2-1
30.05.92 Puerto Rico v Jamaica 0-1
St Vincent v Cuba★
★ *Cuba withdrew.*
St Vincent, Bermuda & Jamaica qualify for 1st rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION — SOUTH

19.04.92 Dutch Antilles v Antigua 1-1
26.04.92 Antigua v Dutch Antilles 3-0
26.04.92 Guyana v Surinam 1-2
24.05.92 Barbados v Trin. & Tobago 1-2
25.05.92 Surinam v Guyana 1-1
31.05.92 Trin. & Tobago v Barbados 3-0
Trinidad & Tobago, Antigua and Surinam qualify for 1st rnd

First Round
CENTRAL REGION

19.07.92 Guatemala v Honduras 0-0
19.07.92 Nicaragua v El Salvador 0-5
23.07.92 El Salvador v Nicaragua 5-1
26.07.92 Honduras v Guatemala 2-0
16.08.92 Panama v Costa Rica 1-0
23.08.92 Costa Rica v Panama 5-1
El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica qualify for 2nd rnd

CARIBBEAN REGION

14.06.92 Antigua v Bermuda 0-3
05.07.92 Trinidad & Tobago v Jamaica 1-2
04.07.92 Bermuda v Antigua 2-1
02.08.92 Surinam v St Vincent 0-0
16.08.92 Jamaica v Trinidad & Tobago 1-1
30.08.92 St Vincent v Surinam 2-1
Bermuda, Jamaica and St Vincent qualify for 2nd rnd

Second Round
GROUP A

08.11.92 Costa Rica v Honduras 2-3
08.11.92 St Vincent v Mexico 0-4
15.11.92 Mexico v Honduras 2-0
15.11.92 St Vincent v Costa Rica 0-1
22.11.92 Mexico v Costa Rica 4-0
22.11.92 St Vincent v Honduras 0-4
28.11.92 Honduras v St Vincent 4-0
29.11.92 Costa Rica v Mexico 2-0
05.12.92 Honduras v Costa Rica 2-1
06.12.92 Mexico v St Vincent 11-0
13.12.92 Costa Rica v St Vincent 5-0
13.12.92 Honduras v Mexico 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MEXICO	6	4	1	1	22	3	9
HONDURAS	6	4	1	1	14	6	9
Costa Rica	6	3	0	3	11	9	6
St. Vincent	6	0	0	6	0	29	0

Mexico & Honduras qualify for final rnd

GROUP B

18.10.92 Jamaica v Canada 1-1
18.10.92 Bermuda v El Salvador 1-0
25.10.92 El Salvador v Canada 1-1
25.10.92 Bermuda v Jamaica 1-1
01.11.92 Canada v Jamaica 1-0
01.11.92 El Salvador v Bermuda 4-1
08.11.92 Canada v El Salvador 2-3
08.11.92 Jamaica v Bermuda 3-2
15.11.92 Canada v Bermuda 4-2
22.11.92 Jamaica v El Salvador 0-2
06.12.92 Bermuda v Canada 0-0
06.12.92 El Salvador v Jamaica 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
EL SALVADOR	6	4	1	1	12	6	9
CANADA	6	2	3	1	9	7	7
Jamaica	6	1	2	3	6	9	4
Bermuda	6	1	2	3	7	12	4

El Salvador & Canada qualify for final rnd

Final Round

04.04.93 Honduras v Canada
04.04.93 El Salvador v Mexico
11.04.93 Mexico v Honduras
11.04.93 Canada v El Salvador
18.04.93 Canada v Honduras
18.04.93 Mexico v El Salvador
25.04.93 Mexico v Canada
25.04.93 Honduras v El Salvador
02.05.93 Honduras v Mexico
02.05.93 El Salvador v Canada
09.05.93 Canada v Mexico
09.05.93 El Salvador v Honduras

SOUTH AMERICA

9 entries (10 members, Chile suspended)
● Winners of Group A & winners & runners-up in Group B qualify for finals. Group A runners-up play winners of CONCACAF/ Oceania play-off for a place in the finals.

GROUP A
Argentina, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru.

01.08.93 Colombia v Paraguay
01.08.93 Peru v Argentina
08.08.93 Paraguay v Argentina
08.08.93 Peru v Colombia
15.08.93 Colombia v Argentina
15.08.93 Paraguay v Peru
22.08.93 Argentina v Peru
22.08.93 Paraguay v Colombia
29.08.93 Argentina v Paraguay
29.08.93 Colombia v Peru
05.09.93 Argentina v Colombia
05.09.93 Peru v Paraguay

GROUP B
Brazil, Uruguay, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela.

08.07.93 Ecuador v Brazil
08.07.93 Venezuela v Bolivia
25.07.93 Bolivia v Brazil
25.07.93 Venezuela v Uruguay
01.08.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
01.08.93 Venezuela v Brazil
08.08.93 Bolivia v Uruguay
08.08.93 Ecuador v Venezuela
15.08.93 Bolivia v Ecuador
15.08.93 Uruguay v Brazil
22.08.93 Bolivia v Venezuela
22.08.93 Brazil v Ecuador
29.08.93 Brazil v Bolivia
29.08.93 Uruguay v Venezuela
05.09.93 Brazil v Venezuela
05.09.93 Uruguay v Ecuador
12.09.93 Uruguay v Bolivia
12.09.93 Venezuela v Ecuador
19.09.93 Brazil v Uruguay
19.09.93 Ecuador v Bolivia

OCEANIA

7 entries (8 members, Western Samoa withdrew)
● *The two Group winners play (home & away) with the winners qualifying to meet the CONCACAF runners-up. The winners of that match will meet the South America Group A runners-up for a place in the finals.*

GROUP 1

11.07.92 Solomon Islands v Tahiti 1-1
04.09.92 Solomon Islands v Australia 1-2
11.09.92 Tahiti v Australia 0-3
20.09.92 Australia v Tahiti 2-0
25.09.92 Australia v Solomon Islands 6-1
09.10.92 Tahiti v Solomon Islands 4-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AUSTRALIA	4	4	0	0	13	2	8
Tahiti	4	1	1	2	5	8	3
Solomon Islands	4	0	1	3	5	13	1

Australia qualify for final play-off

GROUP 2

07.06.92 New Zealand v Fiji 3-0
27.06.92 Vanuatu v New Zealand 1-4
01.07.92 New Zealand v Vanuatu 8-0
12.09.92 Fiji v Vanuatu 3-0
19.09.92 Fiji v New Zealand 0-0
26.09.92 Vanuatu v Fiji 0-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
NEW ZEALAND	4	3	1	0	15	1	7
Fiji	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Vanuatu	4	0	0	4	1	18	0

New Zealand qualify for final play-off

PLAY-OFF
1st leg
29.05.93 New Zealand v Australia
2nd leg
06.06.93 Australia v New Zealand

ASIA

29 entries (36 members)
● *The six Group winners qualify for Second Round, to be played as (home & away) mini-league. Winners & runners-up qualify for finals.*

First Round
GROUP A

22.05.93 Jordan v Yemen ▲
22.05.93 Pakistan v China ▲
24.05.93 Jordan v Iraq ▲
24.05.93 Yemen v Pakistan ▲
26.05.93 Jordan v China ▲
26.05.93 Yemen v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Pakistan v Iraq ▲
28.05.93 Yemen v China ▲
30.05.93 Jordan v Pakistan ▲
30.05.93 Iraq v China ▲
12.06.93 Yemen v Jordan ▼
12.06.93 China v Pakistan ▼
14.06.93 Iraq v Jordan ▼
14.06.93 Pakistan v Yemen ▼
16.06.93 China v Jordan ▼
16.06.93 Iraq v Yemen ▼
18.06.93 Iraq v Pakistan ▼
18.06.93 China v Yemen ▼
20.06.93 Pakistan v Jordan ▼
20.06.93 China v Iraq ▼
▲ in Amman, Jordan
▼ in Beijing, China

GROUP B

28.06.93 Iran v Oman ▲
28.06.93 Taiwan v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Oman v Syria ▲
30.06.93 Iran v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Oman v Taiwan ▲
02.07.93 Iran v Syria ▲
07.07.93 Oman v Iran ▼
07.07.93 Syria v Taiwan ▼
09.07.93 Syria v Oman ▼
09.07.93 Taiwan v Iran ▼
11.07.93 Taiwan v Oman ▼
11.07.93 Syria v Iran ▼
▲ in Tehran, Iran
▼ in Damascus, Syria
★ *Myanmar withdrew.*

GROUP C

09.04.93 Qatar v Indonesia ▲
09.04.93 North Korea v Vietnam ▲
11.04.93 North Korea v Singapore ▲
11.04.93 Qatar v Vietnam ▲
13.04.93 North Korea v Indonesia ▲
13.04.93 Vietnam v Singapore ▲
16.04.93 Qatar v Singapore ▲
16.04.93 Vietnam v Indonesia ▲
24.04.93 Indonesia v Qatar ▼
24.04.93 Vietnam v North Korea ▼
26.04.93 Singapore v North Korea ▼
26.04.93 Vietnam v Qatar ▼
28.04.93 Indonesia v North Korea ▼
28.04.93 Singapore v Vietnam ▼
30.04.93 Singapore v Qatar ▼
30.04.93 Indonesia v Vietnam ▼
02.05.93 Singapore v Indonesia ▼
02.05.93 North Korea v Qatar ▼
▲ in Doha, Qatar
▼ in Singapore

GROUP D

07.05.93 Lebanon v India ▲
07.05.93 Hong Kong v Bahrain ▲
09.05.93 Bahrain v South Korea ▲
09.05.93 Lebanon v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 India v Hong Kong ▲
11.05.93 Lebanon v South Korea ▲
13.05.93 Lebanon v Bahrain ▲
13.05.93 India v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Hong Kong v South Korea ▲
15.05.93 Bahrain v India ▲
05.06.93 South Korea v Hong Kong ▼
05.06.93 Bahrain v Lebanon ▼
07.06.93 India v Bahrain ▼
07.06.93 South Korea v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 Hong Kong v Lebanon ▼
09.06.93 South Korea v India ▼
11.06.93 India v Lebanon ▼
11.06.93 Bahrain v Hong Kong ▼
13.06.93 South Korea v Bahrain ▼
13.06.93 Hong Kong v India ▼
▲ in Beirut, Lebanon
▼ in Seoul, South Korea

GROUP E

01.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▲
01.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▲
03.05.93 Kuwait v Macao ▲
03.05.93 Malaysia v Saudi Arabia ▲
05.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▲
05.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▲
14.05.93 Malaysia v Kuwait ▼
14.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Macao ▼
16.05.93 Macao v Kuwait ▼
16.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Malaysia ▼
18.05.93 Malaysia v Macao ▼
18.05.93 Saudi Arabia v Kuwait ▼
▲ in Kuala Lumpur
▼ in Riyadh

GROUP F

08.04.93 Japan v Thailand ▲
08.04.93 Sri Lanka v UAE ▲
11.04.93 Japan v Bangladesh ▲
11.04.93 Thailand v Sri Lanka ▲
13.04.93 Sri Lanka v Bangladesh ▲
13.04.93 UAE v Thailand ▲
15.04.93 Japan v Sri Lanka ▲
15.04.93 UAE v Bangladesh ▲
18.04.93 Japan v UAE ▲
18.04.93 Thailand v Bangladesh ▲
28.04.93 Thailand v Japan ▼
28.04.93 UAE v Sri Lanka ▼
30.04.93 Bangladesh v Japan ▼
30.04.93 Thailand v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Bangladesh v UAE ▼
03.05.93 Sri Lanka v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Bangladesh v Thailand ▼
05.05.93 Sri Lanka v Japan ▼
07.05.93 Bangladesh v Sri Lanka ▼
07.05.93 UAE v Japan ▼
▲ in Tokyo, Japan
▼ in Dubai, UAE

Attacking . . . Mexico's Espinosa (7) against Costa Rica.

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

LIEGE 1 (Oliseh 75)
CERCLE BRUGGE 1 (Weber 36). **Att:** 5,000.

CHARLEROI 1 (Malbasa 32)
LIERSE 1 (Rekdal 68). **Att:** 9,000.

LOMMEL 0
GENT 0. **Att:** 4,500.

MECHELEN 0
WAREGEM 0. **Att:** 8,500.

ANTWERP 3 (Van Rethy 23, Severeyns 38, 41)
BEVEREN 2 (Soudan 57, Bogaerts 63). **Att:** 6,000.

BOOM 2 (De Meersman 7, Miller 67)
STANDARD 6 (Van Roy 19, Pister 46, Goossens 55, 84, 89, Vos 67). **Att:** 4,500.

LOKEREN 0
GENK 2 (Beyens 52, Katana 75). **Att:** 4,000.

RWDM 2 (Jacob 17, Vercauteren 89)
ANDERLECHT 2 (Nilis 29, 49). **Att:** 15,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Verheyen 89)
EKEREN 3 (Herreman 18, Claessen 59, Hofmans 73). **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

WEEKEND

BOOM 1 (Smolders 28)
ANTWERP 1 (Lehnhoff 81). **Att:** 5,000.

EKEREN 0
CHARLEROI 2 (Brogno 63, Malbasa 87). **Att:** 4,000.

LIERSE 3 (Rekdal 60, 67, Pauwells 63)
LOMMEL 2 (Cannaerts 26, Van Geneugen 50). **Att:** 5,000.

GENT 1 (De Roover 79)
RWDM 2 (Lorincz 16, Van Ankeren 63). **Att:** 9,000.

ANDERLECHT 2 (Nilis 30, 60)
LOKEREN 0. **Att:** 9,000.

GENK 0
MECHELEN 0. **Att:** 4,000.

WAREGEM 6 (Kruzen 23, 57, Vidmar 63, 69, Urban 65, Sunday 42 o.g.)
LIEGE 1 (Fogoenne 21). **Att:** 6,000.

CERCLE BRUGGE 1 (De Buyser 29)
BEVEREN 4 (Bogaerts 8, 43, 49, Soudan 14). **Att:** 2,000.

STANDARD 1 (Lashaf 64)
CLUB BRUGGE 0. **Att:** 12,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

WEEKEND

LIEGE 1 (Arnold 59)
GENK 1 (Claessens 82). **Att:** 5,000.

BEVEREN 0
WAREGEM 2 (De Kneef 53, Abeels 83). **Att:** 5,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 7 (Staelens 6, 41, Amokachi 15, Van der Elst 28, Verheyen 38, 67, Booy 84)
BOOM 0. **Att:** 6,000.

CHARLEROI 1 (Zetterberg 9)
STANDARD 1 (Pister 90). **Att:** 18,000.

LOMMEL 1 (Van Geneugden 75)
EKEREN 2 (Diagne 34, 73). **Att:** 4,000.

RWDM 1 (Van Ankeren 89)
LIERSE 0. **Att:** 8,000.

LOKEREN 1 (Kanu 71)
GENT 2 (Janssens 12, Verdegen 27). **Att:** 5,000.

MECHELEN 1 (Eykelkamp 61)
ANDERLECHT 2 (Versavel 67, Bosman 84). **Att:** 13,500.

ANTWERP 0
CERCLE BRUGGE 0. **Att:** 3,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

WEEKEND

ANDERLECHT 3 (Degryse 25, 37, Bosman 70)
LIEGE 0. **Att:** 18,000.

GENK 0
BEVEREN 2 (Boonem 60, Van Overtvelt 76). **Att:** 6,000.

STANDARD 3 (Vos 14, Demol 41, Van Rooy 84)
LOMMEL 1 (Peetes 71). **Att:** 10,000.

LIERSE 3 (De Smet 21, 88, Huysmans 56)
LOKEREN 0. **Att:** 6,000.

GENT 1 (Balenga 57)
MECHELEN 1 (Dauwen 85). **Att:** 12,000.

WAREGEM 4 (Teppers 44, Kruzen 59, Abeels 75, Vidmar 79)
CERCLE BRUGGE 2 (Cooreman 24, Weber 85). **Att:** 6,000.

BOOM 2 (Muller 25, 55)
CHARLEROI 0. **Att:** 4,000.

EKEREN 3 (Vandewalle 36, Diagne 60, Ghislain 70)
RWDM 0. **Att:** 3,000.

CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Amokachi 32)
ANTWERP 0. **Att:** 15,000.

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

VOLENDAM 3 (Bond 3, Smeets 42, Sier 65)
PSV 1 (Romario 28). **Att:** 6,000.

VITESSE 2 (Bos 24, Van Der Brom 39)
WILLEM II 0. **Att:** 4,367.

RODA JC 1 (Van Den Luer 40)
SPARTA 2 (Van Den Mole 15, 32). **Att:** 2,500.

RKC 2 (Brands pen 30, Streppel 80)
GA EAGLES 1 (Looms 71). **Att:** 2,050.

CAMBUUR 5 (De Gier 23, 33, Keizer 32, Mols 52, Spark 56)
SVV/DORDRECHT 0. **Att:** 5,500.

AJAX 1 (Pettersson pen 43)
UTRECHT 1 (Smolarek 32). **Att:** 17,709.

DEN BOSCH 1 (Derksen 45)
FORTUNA SITTARD 2 (Usta 47, De Jong 85). **Att:** 1,884.

MVV 2 (Visser 68, 88)
TWENTE 0. **Att:** 6,185.

FEYENOORD 3 (Witschge 29, De Wolf 49, Van Boem 68)
GRONINGEN 1 (Gal 76). **Att:** 18,491.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

MIDWEEK

TWENTE 5 (Gaasbek 14, Arts 20, De Boer 45, 87, Van Halst 71)
DEN BOSCH 0. **Att:** 4,300.

WEEKEND

VITESSE 0
VOLDENAM 0. **Att:** 4,317.

RODA JC v PSV — *postponed*.

RKC 4 (Van Hoogdalem 10, Maas 20, Richardson 77, Hoekstra 86)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 2,000.

CAMBUUR 1 (Mols 10)
GA EAGLES 1 (Heering 31). **Att:** 6,000.

AJAX 4 (Pettersson 47, 53, Blind 50, Wijnhard 87)
SVV/DORDRECHT 1 (Barendse 57). **Att:** 16,124.

DEN BOSCH 2 (Van Eck 44, 82)
UTRECHT 0. **Att:** 2,293.

MVV 5 (Scheepers 37, 78, Meijer 40, 58, Franssen 88)
FORTUNA SITTARD 0. **Att:** 8,033.

FEYENOORD 1 (Metgod 49)
TWENTE 1 (Polley 31). **Att:** 21,387.

WILLEM II 1 (Vincent 38)
GRONINGEN 1 (Van Duren 31). **Att:** 5,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

MIDWEEK

AJAX 4 (Bergkamp 4, 9, Davids 41, 52)
VITESSE 0. **Att:** 18,000

RODA JC 1 (Hofstede 39)
FEYENOORD 2 (Witschge 19, Van Loen 21). **Att:** 2,500

SVV/DORDRECHT 0
RKC 1 (Boogers 64). **Att:** 3,000

WEEKEND

VOLENDAM 0
RODA JC 0. **Att:** 4,000.

PSV 0
RKC 3 (Streppel 33, Hoekstra 62, Van Hoogdalem 72). **Att:** 23,850.

SPARTA 2 (Doomerik 66, Van den Berg 79)
CAMBUUR 2 (De Gier 33, Dantuma 85). **Att:** 9,450.

GA EAGLES 0
AJAX 6 (Bergkamp 18, Davids 28, De Boer 48, Jonk 70, Vink 84, 86). **Att:** 11,000.

SVV/DORDRECHT 1 (Sion 1)
DEN BOSCH 1 (Derksen 74). **Att:** 1,200.

UTRECHT 0
MVV 1 (Lanckohr 44). **Att:** 9,450.

SITTARD 0
FEYENOORD 1 (Janssen 11 o.g.). **Att:** 7,000.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

MIDWEEK

PSV 3
SPARTA 1

FORTUNA SITTARD 0
AJAX 4

WEEKEND

VITESSE 6 (Van Bremen 17, Loefen 26, Lathuheru 60, Van Der Brom 62, 79, 86)
RODA 1 (Hofstede 65). **Att:** 3,662.

Sporting's Valckx (left) battles with Soares of Salgueiros.

RKC 2 (Hoekstra 65, Boogers 65)
VOLENDAM 3 (Wasillan 28, Defreitas 29, Van Loon 31). **Att:** 2,800.

CAMBUUR 0
PSV 1 (Kieft 33). **Att:** 12,500.

AJAX 6 (F. de Boer 10, 84, Bergkamp 32, 38, Vink 45, 70)
SPARTA 0. **Att:** 19,444.

DEN BOSCH 0
GA EAGLES 1. **Att:** 1,757

MVV 1 (Lanckohr 38)
SVV/DORDRECHT 0. **Att:** 6,768.

FEYENOORD 0
UTRECHT 0. **Att:** 24,283.

GRONINGEN 1 (Gal 43)
TWENTE 1 (Mols 3). **Att:** 13,058.

WILLEM II 2 (Van Hintum 74, 90)
FORTUNA SITTARD 0. **Att:** 5,000.

Ajax's Bergkamp takes a tumble against SVV/Dordrecht's Langenhuysen.

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

WEEKEND

CUP — 5TH ROUND

SPORTING 3
FATIMA 2

VITORIA SEBUTAL 0
BOAVISTA 1

FC PORTO 1
BENFICA 1

GUIMARAES 1
BELENENSES 0

AMADORA 1
PACOS FERREIRA 0

ODIVELAS 1
ALVERCA 2

BRAGA 1
PENAFIEL 1

***Bye:* AMORA**

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

WEEKEND

CUP — 5TH ROUND REPLAY

PENAFIEL 1
BRAGA 2

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

MIDWEEK

CUP — 5TH ROUND REPLAY

BENFICA 2
FC PORTO 0

WEEKEND

GUIMARAES 2
MARITIMO 2

CHAVES 5
ESTORIL 2

FC PORTO 3
BELENSES 0

BOAVISTA 0
PACOS FERREIRA 0

BENFICA 1
TIRSENSE 0

SPORTING LISBON 0
SALGUEIROS 1

FARENSE 3
FAMALICAO 0

ESPINHO 0
BRAGA 1

GIL VICENTE 3
BEIRA MAR 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

WEEKEND

MARITIMO 1
BEIRA MAR 0

ESTORIL 1
GUIMARAES 0

BELENENSES 1
CHAVES 0

PACOS FERREIRA 1
FC PORTO 2

TIRSENSE 1
BOAVISTA 1

SALGUEIROS 0
BENFICA 3

ESPINHO 1
GIL VICENTE 0

FAMALICAO 1
SPORTING 2

BRAGA 0
FARENSE 1

Mexico's Suarez and Espana cannot stop Italy's Baggio getting a shot on target.

INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Jan 10 = Gaborone — friendly
BOTSWANA 0
S AFRICA 2 (Seale 56, Moshoeu 85)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000.
Botswana: Motaung — Mophuting, Tsatsilebe, Senne, Molimakwa — Montwedi, Sechele, Ramanoko (Mbaakanyi 59), Matenge (Segopolo 78) — Molethe (Gasemotho 67), Duiker.
S Africa: Crowley — Motaung, Seale (Nyathi 80), Komphela, Links — Radebe, Khumalo, Khuse, Mosheou — September (Mahlangu 55), Madida.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Jan 16 = Johannesburg — WC African gp D
S AFRICA 0
NIGERIA 0
Att: 60,000.
S Africa: Crowley — Motaung, Radebe, Khompela, Seale — Khuse (Mncwango 89), Khumalo, Mosheou, Madida — Petersen (Legodi 52), Deamaley.
Nigeria: Agu — Agboola, Iroha, Keshi, Okechukwu — Ezeogu (Babalade 89), Ekpo, Ikpeba (Fnidi 443) — Siasia, Amokachi, Yekini.

Jan 16 = Mwanza — WC African gp H
TANZANIA 1 (Chali 44)
ZAMBIA 3 (J Bwalya 6, Lumba 42, K Bwalya 67)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 18,000.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

Jan 17 = Bujumbura — WC African gp A
BURUNDI 0
ALGERIA 0
Att: 6,000.

Jan 17 = Sonhlolo — WC African gp B
SWAZILAND 0
CAMEROON 0
Att: 7,000.

Jan 17 = Lome — WC African gp C
TOGO 1 (Ali Salissu 69)
ZIMBABWE 2 (Sawu Gent 47, Henry Ko 61)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Jan 17 = Gaborone — WC African gp E
BOTSWANA 0
IVORY COAST 0
Att: 3,300.

Jan 17 = Cotonou — WC African gp F
BENIN 0
TUNISIA 5 (Ziad Tlemcani 15, Fawzi Roussi 18, 42, 61, Hichri 44)
HT: 0-4. **Att:** 8,000.
Benin: Mouhamagnan — Oudiola, M Sossa, Azingbe, Moreira Pinto — Dossou-Gbete, Kole Raimi (Angbe 66), Gonvou, Latoundji (Braguide 79) — Majidu, L Sossa.
Tunisia: El Ouaer — Ben Neji, S Selimi, Okbi, Ben Yahia — Hichri, Mizouri, Mahjoubi (Nasri 46), L Rouissi — Tlemcani (A Selimi 84), F Rouissi.

Jan 17 = Addis Ababa — WC African gp F
ETHIOPIA 0
MOROCCO 1 (Mohammed Sirtut 33)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 5,000.

Jan 17 = Maputo — WC African gp G
MOZAMBIQUE 1 (Mandigno 50)
GABON 1 (Nzamba 43)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 15,000.

Jan 17 = Windhoek — WC African gp H
NAMIBIA 0
MADAGASCAR 1 (Remi 7)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

Jan 18 = Luanda — WC African gp C
ANGOLA 0
EGYPT 0
Att: 30,000.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

Jan 20 = Florence — intl friendly
ITALY 2 (Baggio 55, Maldini 80)
MEXICO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Batta (Fra)
ITALY: Pagliuca — Mannini, Maldini, Costacurta (Baresi 73), Vierchowod, Di Mauro, Albertini (Dino Baggio 46), Bianchi (Lentini 73), Signori, Mancini (Casiraghi 82), Roberto Baggio.
MEXICO: Campos — Gutierrez (Esparza 59), Suarez, Juan Ramirez, Francisco Ramirez, Espana, Ambriz, Flores (Orviales 64), Uribe, Luis Garcia, Zague (Javier Cruz 46).

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

Jan 23 = Hong Kong — Carlsberg Challenge, semi-F
JAPAN 1 (Kurosaki 63)
SWITZERLAND 1 (B Sutter 56)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Yim Kin (HK)
Switzerland won 5-3 on pens
Japan: Maekawa — Horiike, Katsuya, Otake, Tsunami, Yamada, Fukada, Moriyasu, Sawanobori, Makayama, Jino (Karasaki 63).
Switzerland: Lehmann — Hottoiger, Geiger, Egli, Rothenbuhler, Sylvestre (Ohrel 82), Sforza, Henchoz (Bregy 87), Bickel (A Sutter 73), B Sutter, Bonvin.

Jan 23 = Ciudad Guyana — friendly
VENEZUELA 0
PERU 0
Att: 20,000.
Venezuela: Gomez — Bonacorso, Tortolero, C GArcxia, Echenausi — Diaz, Rodriguez, Chacon — Dolguetta, L Garcia, Gonzalez.
Peru: Quesada — Jorge Soto, Duffo, Reynoso, Pinillos — Jose Soto, Carranza, Martinez — Rivera (Baroni 46), Mestri (Hurtado 46), Palacios.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

Jan 24 = Valletta — WC Euro gp 1
MALTA 0
PORTUGAL 1 (Rui Aguas 58)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Elleray (Eng)
Malta: Cluett — S Vella, Galea, Brincat, Buhagiar, Buttigieg, R Vella (Suda 75), Busuttil, Gregory, Laferla, Scerri (Degiorgio 65).
Portugal: Vitor Baia — Joao Pinto I, Veloso, Fernando Couto, Cristovao, Cruz, Vitor Paneira (Joao Pinto II 56), Semedo (Jaime Magalhaes 75), Oliveira, Rui Aguas, Figo.

Jan 24 = La Paz — friendly
BOLIVIA 3
REST OF AMERICA 0

Jan 24 = — African chp
GUINEA-BISSAU 1 (Forbs 10)
ALGERIA 4 (Rahmouni 15, Tasfaout 19, Dziri 76, 88)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 3,500.

Jan 24 = African chp
TOGO 1 (Gnavor Akpalo 9)
SENEGAL 1 (Sane 22)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 5,000.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

Jan 26 = Hong Kong — Carlsberg Challenge, Final
HONG KONG 2
SWITZERLAND 3
HT: 0-2.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

Jan 27 = Las Palmas — Intl friendly
SPAIN 1 (Toni 72 pen)
MEXICO 1 (Suarez 44)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 21,000. **Ref:** Rothlisberger (Swi)
SPAIN: Zubizarreta — Ferrer, Solozabal (Alkorta 46), Lopez, Nando (Toni 46), Geli (Cristobal 46), Imaz, Guerrero, Fran, Alfonso (Claudio 46), Kiko (Christiansen 46).
MEXICO: Campos — Suarez, Perales, Ambriz, Ramirez, Espana, Ordiales, Andrade (Espinosa 60), Alves Zague, Luis Garcia, Lucho Flores (Uribe 56).

Jan 27 = Lima — friendly
PERU 1 (Carranza 42)
HONDURAS 1 (Rochez 90)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000.
Peru: Rodriguez — Charun, Arteaga, Reynoso, Pinillos — Soto, Carranza, Martinez, Palacios — Maestri, Rivera (Muchotrigo).
Honduras: Rivera — Yearwood, Cruz, Castro, Martinez — Funes (Rochez), Flores, Williams, Calix — Obando (Pineda), Suazo.

Jan 27 = Guayaquil — friendly
ECUADOR 1 (Fernandez 38)
BYELORUSSIA 1 (Khtokovich 70)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 38,000. **Ref:** Elias Jacome (Ecu)
Ecuador: Espinoza — C Munoz, Tenorio, Noriega, Caraballi — J Guerrero, Carcelen, Chala, Fernandez — Aviles, E Hurtado.
Byelorussia: Shamtalosov — Losun, Taukov, Orlevski, Khtokovich — Aleinikov, Gotsmanov, Kashentsev, Belkevich — Demenkovets, Velichko.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

Jan 29 = Cochabamba — friendly
BOLIVIA 3 (Quinteros 4, Villaroel 57, 75)
HONDURAS 1 (Suazo 24)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 15,000.
Bolivia: Trucco (Rojas) — J Pena, Rimba (Jiguchi), Quinteros, Sandy — Borja, Soria, Melgar (Ramallo), Romero (Villaroel) — Baldivieso, A Pena (Moreno).
Honduras: Batista — Yearwood, Cruz, Castro, Arzu (Williams), Funes, Martinez, Castillo (Bellet), Calix — Obando, Suazo.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

Jan 30 = Dakar — WC African gp G
SENEGAL 6 (Sane 18, 19, Seck 26, 80, Badiane 48, Diarra 74)
MOZAMBIQUE 1 (Enrique 44)
HT: 3-1. **Att:** 28,000.

Jan 30 = Tempe, Arizona — friendly
UNITED STATES 2 (Murray 58, Moore 87)
DENMARK 2 (Strudal 29, Kjeldberg 85)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 13,215. **Ref:** Castellanos (Mex)

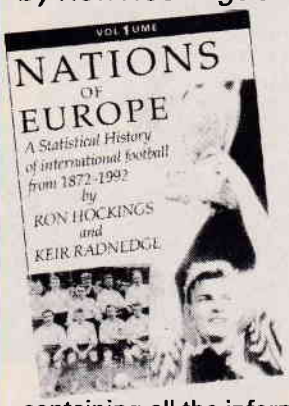
CONTINUED OVER

NEW PUBLICATION APRIL 1993

SUPPORTED BY

NATIONS OF EUROPE

by Ron Hockings and Keir Radnedge



A statistical history of international football in 2 volumes

120 years of detailed information

OVER 800 PAGES containing all the information you will EVER want to know, from EVERY match EVER played, by EVERY ONE of Europes' National Teams from 1872 to 1992. 120 years of detailed information, from 8,000 matches giving • Results • Line-ups • Goal Scorers • Venues and attendances. Each country will have a review of their history with photographs and achievements.

SPECIAL PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER:
Vols I & II £37 inc p&p SAVE £9

As a pre-publication subscriber your name will be included on the subscribers' list in volume 1 of this exceptional reference work.

Payment: By cheque or postal order. Please write your name and address on the reverse of the cheque. Overseas subscribers please remit by Eurocheque (write card number on reverse), or sterling draft payable in London.
Make cheques payable to R. G. Hockings.
Credit cards are not acceptable.
Send the coupon below and your payment to:
Ron Hockings, 36 Lockier Walk, Wembley, Middx HA9 7TW.
Please complete in block capitals

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Country ..... Postcode .....

CONTINUED

US: Meola — Balboa, Lapper, Clavijo (Lalas 78), Caligiuri (Armstrong 46) — Michallik, Henderson (Jones 46), Murray, Moore, Kinnear (Sorber 70) — Vermes (Harbor 46).
Denmark: Brodersen — Rieper, Christiansen (Kjeldberg 60), B. Nielsen — Bilfort, M Nielsen (Tofting 21), Jensen, Kaus, L. Nielsen — Elstrup, Strudal (Andersen 70).

Jan 30 = Lima — friendly
PERU 1 (Baroni 14)
BYELORUSSIA 1 (Orlevski 3)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 8,000.
Peru: Marrou — Charun, Duifo, Arteaga, Pinillos — Reynoso, Palacios, Carranza — Martinez, Baroni, Maestri.
Byelorussia: Sutsonosov — Losun, Zigmantovich, Yahimovich, Orlevski — Aleinikov, Gotsmanov, Velichko, Kachintasev — Gorasimets, Beikevich.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

Jan 31 = Kumasi — WC African gp A
GHANA 1 (Pele 19)
BURUNDI 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000.

Jan 31 = Harare — WC African gp C
ZIMBABWE 2
ANGOLA 1
Att: 35,000.

Jan 31 = Cairo — WC African gp C
EGYPT 3 (H Hassan 58, Ezzat 83, El Kas 89)
TOGO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 50,000.

Jan 31 = Pointe-Noire — WC African gp D
CONGO 0
SOUTH AFRICA 1 (Legodi 86)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 12,000.

Jan 31 = Abidjan — WC African gp E
IVORY COAST 1 (A Traore 54)
NIGER 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 32,000.
Ivory Coast: Konate — Kouame, Hobou, Abouo, Sekana — Comara, Dibo (A Traore 46), Ben Salah, Otokore (Lignon 67) — M Traore, Tiehi.
Niger: Garba — Issoufou, Abdoul Gazaku, Tinni, Mustapha — Seydou, Harouna, Brah Taher, Halidou (Yataga 79) — Bilali Douka (Yay 20), Mounkaila Ide.

Jan 31 = Rabat — WC African gp F
MOROCCO 5 (Chaouch 2, 17, Lashaf 41, Abrami 60 pen, Meziane 72)
BENIN 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 24,000.

Jan 31 = Tunis — WC African gp F
TUNISIA 3 (Limam 4, Mahjoubi 73, Hamrouni 89)
ETHIOPIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000.
Tunisia: El Ouaer — Madhebi, Ben Yahia, Hachri, Ben Neji — S Selimi, Gharbi (A Selimi 55), Mahjoubi, Okbi — F Roussi, Limam (Hamrouni 70).
Ethiopia: Desalegn (Belete 61) — Mengistu, Tesfaye, A. Mulat, Getachew — Kislu, Legesse, Kebede, Tenker — Beguashaw, Haile.

Jan 31 = Lusaka — WC African gp H
ZAMBIA 4 (Chansa 6, Musonda 35pen, Bwalya 70, Banda 72)
NAMIBIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 32,000.

Jan 31 = Nicosia — friendly
CYPRUS 0
POLAND 0
Att: 3,500.

Jan 31 = Guayaquil — friendly
ECUADOR 3 (E Hurtado 32, Gavica 43, Aviles 77)
ROMANIA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Martinez (Ecu)
Ecuador: Mendoza (Cevallos 46) — C Munoz, I Hurtado, Noriega, Tenorio — Caraballi, Carcelen, Fernandez, Gavica (A Hurtado 88) — Aviles (Herrera 78), E Hurtado.
Romania: Tene (Prunea 46) — Cristecu, Necula (Timofte), Syelemesi, Mihali — Sandoi, Hutianu, Dumitrescu (Ceausila 47), Stinga (Parna 65) — Merguim (Moisescu 47), Cheregi.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Feb 3 = Tel-Aviv — friendly
ISRAEL 0
POLAND 0
Att: 1,000. **Ref:** Ben Itzhak (Isr)
Israel: Ginzburg (Antman 46) — Halfon, Klinger, Shelach, Hilel — Elmeich (Hazan 46), Atar, Banin, Nimny — Harazi (Benaya 82), Ohana (Drieks 75).
Poland: Klak — Jalocha, Bak, Waldoch, Zcewczyk — Gesior, Kobilanski, Brzeczek (Jegor 79), Swierczewski — Kowalczy, Cebula (Czerwiec 46).

Feb 3 = Lima — friendly
PERU 0
ROMANIA 2 (Haganu 44, Dumitrescu 49)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

Feb 6 = Los Angeles — friendly
EL SALVADOR 0
DENMARK 2 (Brian Nielsen 26, Elstrup 60)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Feb 10 = Faro — friendly
PORTUGAL 1 (Oceano 56)
NORWAY 1 (Sorloth 87)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 6,000. **Ref:** Martin Navarrete (Spa).
Portugal: Vitor Baia (Silvino 46) — Joao Pinto I, Helder (Rui Filipe 58), Peixe, Fernando Couto, Oceano, Vitor Paneira, (Rui Barros 46), Carlos Xavier, Rui Aguas (Jorge Cadete 46), Futre (Domingos 58), Figo (Sousa 60).
Norway: Rossnach — Halle, Tore Pedersen, Roger Nilsen, Lydersen, Flo, Mykland (Jan Ove Pedersen 46), Rekdal, Leonhardssen, Sorloth, Skammelsrud (Fjortoft 58).

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP

Feb 10 = 1st leg
WERDER BREMEN 1 (Allofs 87)
BARCELONA 1 (Salinas 38)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 22,098.
Bremen: Reck — Bratseth, Borowka, Votava, Bockenfeld, Neubarth, Herzog, Eilts, Legat, Bode (Kohn 69), Hobsch (Allofs 78).
Barcelona: Zubizarreta — Ferrer, Koeman, Nadal, Eusebio, Bakero (Beguiristain 67), Amor, Goikoetxea, Richard Witschge, Salinas (Christiansen 84), Stoichkov.

CARLSBERG CHALLENGE

(In Hong Kong)
Semi-finals: Japan 1, Switzerland 1 *(Switzerland 5-3 on pens);* Hong Kong 5, Denmark U-21 0.
Third place: Denmark U-21 2, Japan 1.
Final: Hong Kong XI 2, Switzerland 3.

OTHER MATCHES

Jan 12 *(Dakar):* Senegal 1 (Sane 88), France B 3 (Loko 8, 52, Prunier 38).
Jan 16 *(Salerno):* Salernitana 3, Romania 3.
Jan 18 *(Potters Bar):* Tottenham Res 2 (Moran 34, 70), US U-20 1 (Amani-Dove 58).
Jan 19 *(Lisbon):* Sporting Clube 0, France 2 (Loko 78, Lizarazu 81).
Jan 20 *(Latina):* Italy U-21 1 (Panucci 89), Romania U-21 0.
Jan 26 *(Rosario):* Rosario XI 0, Romania 0.
Jan 28 *(Caserta):* Italy Military 3 (Panucci 5, Poggi 64, Fontana 80 pen), Russia Military 0.
Feb 3: Mexico 2, Millonarios 1.
Feb 6 *(Mission Viejo, Calif):* US 2 (Henderson 84, Jones 90), FC Zurich 1 (Skoro 31).
Feb 9 *(Loule):* Portugal U-21 1 (Nelson Toni 51), Norway U-21 0.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1
Oct 13 *(Perth):* **Scotland 0, Portugal 0. Oct 15** *(Cremona):* **Italy 1** (Vieri 53), **Switzerland 0. Nov 17** *(Grenchen):* **Switzerland 4** (Camenzind 15, Margarini 28, Comisetti 30, Karlen 37), **Malta 0. Dec 16** *(Valletta):* **Malta 0, Italy 1** (Galea og 70). **Jan 23: Malta 0, Portugal 2** (Miguel Bruno 60, 77).

GROUP 2
Oct 6 *(Serravalle):* **San Marino 0, Norway 3** (Strandli 26, Swift 56, Petter 76). **Oct 13** *(Utrecht):* **Holland 1** (Van Gastel 77), **Poland 3** (Hajto 25, Wojciechowski 28, Dabrowski 49); *(Peterborough):* **England 0, Norway 2** (Strandli 2, Haland 67). **Oct 27** *(Ankara):* **Turkey 4** (Hasan 7, Bulent 16, 21, Mustafa 44), **San Marino 0. Nov 17** *(Brisbane Road, London):* **England 0, Turkey 1** (Aydin 76). **Dec 15** *(Istanbul):* **Turkey 1** (Mujdat 21), **Holland 1** (Davids 14).

GROUP 3
Oct 13 *(Copenhagen/Osterbro):* **Denmark 3** (Kristensen 14, Moller 35, 52), **Rep Ireland 2** (Dempsey 5, McGrath 84). **Nov 17** *(Tirana):* **Albania 0, Germany 1** (Unger 21); *(Jerez):* **Spain 2** (Kiko 24, Acosta 27), **Rep. Ireland 1** (McCarthy 65). **Dec 15** *(Osnabruck):* **Germany 1** (Herrlich 37), **Spain 2** (Christiansen 48 o.g., Oscar 65). **Dec 23** *(Osnabruck):* **Germany 4** (Munch 48, Herrlich 75, 89, Haber 88), **Albania 1** (Pali 56).

GROUP 4
Oct 13 *(Seraing):* **Belgium 1** (Crasson 89), **Romania 0;** *(Lamaca/Papadopulos):* **Cyprus 2** (Marios 64, Kiriakos 84), **Wales 4** (Bowen 34, Blake 39, 50, 75). **Nov 13** *(Bucharest):* **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk):* **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21). **Nov 28** *(Paralimni):* **Cyprus 0, Romania 2** (Safta 31, Stinga 74).

GROUP 5
Oct 7 *(Reykjavik):* **Iceland 1** (T Gudjonsson 81pen), **Greece 3** (Mahlas 4, Kostic 73, 88). **Oct 13** *(Moscow):* **Russia 5, Iceland 0. Oct 27** *(Moscow):* **Russia 2** (Sherbakov, Beshchastnikh), **Luxembourg 1** (Cardoni). **Nov 10** *(Edhessa):* **Greece 2, Hungary 1. Nov 11** *(Bucharest):* **Romania 1** (Moldovan 44), **Czechoslovakia. 0. Nov 17** *(Kortrijk):* **Belgium 3** (Crasson 25 pen, Goossens 27, Walem 82), **Wales 1** (Lee Jones 21).

GROUP 6
Oct 6 *(Halmstad):* **Sweden 6** (H Larsson 29, 40, 54, A Bild 65, 86, Jeglertz 89), **Bulgaria 0. Oct 14** *(Beauvais):* **France 6** (Ouedec 8pen, Pedros 12, Nouma 33, Dugarry 41, 55, Vairelles 77), **Austria 1** (Thetis og 44). **Oct 27** *(Vienna):* **Austria 1** (Pirk 15), **Israel 5** (Keisy 20, Revivo 25 pen, 27, Mizrahi 75, Torjman 76). **Nov 10** *(Herzliya):* **Israel 1, Sweden 1. Dec 1: Israel 1, Bulgaria 2.**

SOUTH AMERICA

SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICAN TABLES

BRAZIL

Sao Paulo State Championship
Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Santos	5	4	0	1	10	6	8
Bragantino	5	4	0	1	7	3	8
Palmeiras	4	3	1	0	9	4	7
Rio Branco	5	2	3	0	8	4	7
Sao Paulo	4	2	2	0	8	3	6
Guarani	5	2	1	2	8	7	5
Juventus	5	2	1	2	7	9	5

Group B

Taquaritinga	4	3	1	0	8	5	7
Novorizontino	4	2	1	1	8	4	5
XV de Jau	4	2	1	1	5	3	5
America	4	2	1	1	3	2	5
Ferroviaria	4	1	3	0	4	2	5

Top six teams in group A and the top two in group B qualify for the semi-final stage.

URUGUAY

First Division *(final)*
After 24 games: 1) Nacional 33pts, 2) River Plate 28, 3) Danubio 27, 4) Penarol, Bella Vista, Defensor Sporting 26, 7) Wanderers, Racing, Progreso 24, 10) Liverpool 23, 11) Cerro 19, 12) Rentistas 18, 13) Central Espanol 14.
Top six qualify for play-off to pick two clubs for Libertadores Cup.

VENEZUELA

First Division
1) Caracas FC, Mineros Guyana, Minerven 18pts, 4) Tachira 17, 5) Lara 16, 6) Maritimo, Trujillanos 15, 8) Anzoategui 14, 9) Estudiantes, Monagas 13, 11) Llaneros 9, 12) Universidad de los Andes 8, 13) Galicia, Zamora 6, 15) Italia, Portuguesa 4.

MEXICO

First Division *(after 24 of 38 games)*
Group 1: Atlante 26pts, Veracruz 22, Queretaro and Santos 18, Universidad Aut. Tamaulipas 9.
Group 2: Necaxa 36, Universidad Aut. Guadalajara 31, America 28, Puebla 24, Morelia 22.
Group 3: Universidad Nuevo Leon 27, Cruz Azul 25, Atlas 24, Guadalajara 22, Universidad Guadalajara 19.
Group 4: Monterrey 33, Leon 32, Universidad Aut.Mexico (UNAM) 26, Toluca 20, Pachuca 18.
Top two of each group and two best third-placed teams qualify for title play-offs.

HONDURAS

First Division
After 19 games: 1) Marathon 24pts, 2) Olimpia 22, 3) Petrotela 21, 4) Real Espana 19, 5) Motagua, Victoria 18, 7) Platense 17, 8) Real Maya 16, 9) Vida 12, 10) Super Estrella 5.

COSTA RICA

First Division *(After 12 games)*
Group 1: 1) Herediano 19pts, 2) Saprissa 14, 3) Turrialba, El Carmen 13, 5) Perez Zeledon 12, 6) Limon 10.
Group 2: 1) Cartagines 15, 2) Alajuelense 14, 3) Puntarenas 12, 4) Ramonense 9, 5) Guanacaste, San Carlos 7.

EL SALVADOR

First Division *(After 21 games)*
1) Luis Angel Firpo, FAS 28pts, 3) Alianza, Cojutepeque, Baygon-ADET 23, 6) Tiburones 19, 7) Marte, Aguila, Apaneca 17, 10) Fuerte San Francisco 13.

GUATEMALA

First Division *(After 19 games)*
1) Aurora 30pts, 2) Suchitepequez 26, 3) Comunicaciones 22, 4) Municipal, Izalbal, Galcasa, Amatitlan 21, 8) Escuintla 19, 9) Chiquimulilla 13, 10) Tipografia 12, 11) Del Monte, Juventud Retalteca 11.

1993 LIBERTADORES CUP

FIRST ROUND

GROUP A
(Peru-Venezuela)

07.02.93	Minerven (V) V Caracas (V)	0-0
10.02.93	Cristal (P) v Universitatrio (P)	1-3
16.02.93	Universitario v Caracas	
19.02.93	Sporting Cristal v Caracas	
02.03.93	Sporting Cristal v Minerven	
03.03.93	Universitario v Minerven	
10.03.93	Caracas v Minerven	
10.03.93	Universitario v Sporting Cristal	
16.03.93	Caracas v Sporting Cristal	
19.03.93	Minerven v Sporting Cristal	
23.03.93	Minerven v Universitario	
26.03.93	Caracas v Universitario	

GROUP B
(Bolivia-Chile)

17.02.93	Bolivar (Bol) v San Jose (Bol)	
17.02.93	Cobreloa (Chi) v U. Catolica (Chi)	
23.02.93	Bolivar v Univ. Catolica	
26.02.93	San Jose v Univ. Catolica	
02.03.93	Bolivar v Cobreloa	
05.03.93	San Jose v Cobreloa	
10.03.93	San Jose v Bolivar	
10.03.93	Univ. Catolica v Cobreloa	
16.03.93	Cobreloa v San Jose	
19.03.93	Univ. Catolica v San Jose	
23.03.93	Cobreloa v Bolivar	
26.03.93	Univ. Catolica v Bolivar	

GROUP C
(Uruguay-Ecuador)

17.02.93	Nacional (Ecu) v Barcelona (Ecu)	
17.02.93	Nacional (Uru) v Bella Vista (Uru)	
23.02.93	Barcelona v Bella Vista	
26.02.93	Nacional v Bella Vista	
02.03.93	Barcelona v Nacional (Uru)	
05.03.93	Nacional v Nacional (Uru)	
10.03.93	Barcelona v Nacional	
10.03.93	Bella Vista v Nacional (Uru)	
16.03.93	Bella Vista v Barcelona	
19.03.93	Nacional (Uru) v Barcelona	
23.03.93	Bella Vista v Nacional	
26.03.93	Nacional (Uru) v Nacional	

GROUP D
(Brazil-Colombia)

10.02.93	Inter (Bra) v Flamengo (Bra)	0-0
11.02.93	America (Col) v Nacional (Col)	
16.02.93	America v Flamengo	
19.02.93	Nacional v Flamengo	
02.03.93	Flamengo v America	
05.03.93	Inter v America	
10.03.93	Flamengo v Inter	
11.03.93	Nacional v America	
16.03.93	Inter v Nacional	
19.03.93	Flamengo v Nacional	
23.03.93	America v Inter	
26.03.93	Nacional v Inter	

GROUP E
(Argentina-Paraguay)

05.02.93	C. Porteno (P) v Olimpia (P)	0-0
07.02.93	River Plate (Arg) v Newell's	0-1
12.02.93	Cerro Porteno v Newell's OB	
16.02.93	Olimpia v Newell's OB	
23.02.93	Cerro Porteno v River Plate	
26.02.93	Olimpia v River Plate	
10.03.93	Newell's OB v River Plate	
10.03.93	Olimpia v Cerro Porteno	
16.03.93	River Plate v Cerro Porteno	
19.03.93	Newell's OB v Cerro Porteno	
23.03.93	Newell's OB v Olimpia	
26.03.93	River Plate v Olimpia	

SECOND ROUND

First Leg
Wednesday, April 7

Series A	3rd Gp C v Winner Gp A
Series B	3rd Gp D v Winner Gp B
Series C	3rd Gp E v Winner Gp C
Series D	3rd Gp A v Winner Gp C
Series E	3rd Gp B v Winner Gp E
Series F	2nd Gp C v 2nd Gp A
Series G	2nd Gp B v 2nd Gp D
Series H	Sao Paulo (Bra) v 2nd Gp E

Second Leg
Wednesday, April 14

Series A	Winner Gp A v 3rd Gp C
Series B	Winner Gp B v 3rd Gp D
Series C	Winner Gp C v 3rd Gp E
Series D	Winner Gp D v 3rd Gp A
Series E	Winner Gp E v 3rd Gp B
Series F	2nd Gp A v 2nd Gp C
Series G	2nd Gp D v 2nd Gp B
Series H	2nd Gp E v Sao Paulo (Bra)

QUARTER-FINALS

First Leg
Wednesday April 21

Series I	Series B v Series A
Series II	Series D v Series C
Series III	Series F v Series E
Series IV	Series H v Series G

Second Leg
Wednesday April 28

Series I	Series A v Series B
Series II	Series C v Series D
Series III	Series E v Series F
Series IV	Series G v Series H

SEMI-FINALS

First Leg
Wednesday May 5
Series II winner v *Series I* winner
Series IV winner v *Series III* winner

Second Leg
Wednesday May 12
Series I winner v *Series II* winner
Series III winner v *Series IV* winner

FINAL

First Leg
Wednesday May 19

Second Leg
Wednesday May 26

1992 SOUTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

	Home						Away						Total						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	%
ARGENTINA	7	2	0	0	4	0	4	1	0	9	1	6	1	0	13	1	93
URUGUAY	7	4	1	1	9	6	1	0	0	2	1	5	1	1	11	7	79
COLOMBIA	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	75
BRAZIL	10	4	0	1	14	6	3	1	1	9	2	7	1	2	23	8	75
PERU	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	50
ECUADOR	5	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	3	3	6	0	2	3	4	7	20

Leading scorers
7 Bebeto (Brazil). **6** Rai (Brazil), Batistuta (Argentina).

MATCHES PLAYED

February
Brazil 3, US 0

April
Brazil 3, Finland 1
Uruguay 1, Brazil 0

May
England 1, Brazil 1

June
Wales 0, Argentina 1*
Japan 0, Argentina 1
Argentina 2, Australia 0
Uruguay 2, Australia 0

July
Guatemala 1, Ecuador 0
Costa Rica 2, Ecuador 1
Uruguay 3, Ecuador 1

August
US 0, Colombia 1
Mexico 0, Brazil 5*
Mexico 0, Colombia 0*
Uruguay 2, Costa Rica 1
US 0, Brazil 1
Ecuador 1, Costa Rica 1
France 0, Brazil 2

September
Uruguay 0, Argentina 0
Brazil 4, Costa Rica 2

October
Ivory Coast 0, Argentina 4*
Saudi Arabia 1, Argentina 3

November
Peru 1, Ecuador 1
Brazil 1, Uruguay 2
Argentina 2, Poland 0
Uruguay 0, Poland 1

December
Brazil 3, Germany 1
Uruguay 1, Germany 4
* = neutral ground.

BRIAN GLANVILLE'S LAST WORD

The end of Drury's lane

GONE but far from forgotten. Press boxes will never be the same without my old friend Reg Drury who, alas, has decided to retire from his role as football correspondent of *The News Of The World.*

Unfailingly funny, honest, pungent, combative and well informed, Reg surely represented popular sports journalism and cockney humour, at its best. Everybody liked him, everybody trusted him.

We began on the same small weekly, I in 1949, he is 1950. He was an ardent footballer on Hackney Marshes, who once scored three goals against the first team in an Enfield trial, and later captained my own Sunday club, Chelsea Casuals; a hard-driving inspiration.

To say that I'll miss him is an understatement. We all will.

REALITY INTRUDES

IT is always sad to see a love affair die.

Especially when it dies not with a bang, nor with a whimper, but with a belch.

An Oxfordian belch, said the *Corriere Dello Sport* of Rome, drily, while another Roman paper, *Il Messaggero*, wrote that sticking your tongue out was all very well, but a belch was something different. Quite unacceptable.

Paul Gascoigne's mistake, naive fellow that he is, was to belch straight into a television camera. Had not he learned his lesson when, via another "foreign" TV camera, this time Norwegian, he had told the denizens of that country to eff off?

What a row ensued, and how fortunate it was that the gentle, understanding Football Association were at hand to explain to us all — not least those of us who have been given the same friendly advice — that he did not really mean it?

My own response, when I heard of Gazza's belch, was uncontrollable laughter. Not least because I have grown a little tired of reading and hearing the party line, from Lazio president Cragnotti, coach Zoff, and the rest. That Gazza's reputation in England had been wholly unfair, and that in Rome he had been the perfect gentleman.

Just one televised belch let reality intrude.

QPR skipper Alan McDonald consoles Southall after his dismissal at Loftus Road.

Seeing red at referees.

NEVILLE SOUTHALL, who wrote a kind and courteous letter published in the QPR programme, could have been forgiven for feeling a little bit like an atom bombarded by neutrons, rather than a goalkeeper bombarded by footballs.

At Shepherd's Bush, Ferdinand of QPR chased a long pass down the middle. Watson, the Everton centre-half, running between him and the ball, headed it neatly back to his keeper, Southall, who duly caught it. Just outside the box.

Gerald Ashby, the referee promptly showed Southall a red card, but as he made his way back to the dressing-rooms, it was to a torrent of applause from the generous QPR fans. Hence the letter of thanks published in the programme.

Nine days later Southall was back in London. Bowry of Crystal Palace tried to stop the ball, which hit his chin, and ran to Everton's Beardsley, who set off for goal. Take no notice of some commentating ass on BBC Match of the Day, who blethered that the ball was running towards the corner flag. Where do they get them?

Ashby . . . sympathy.

As Beardsley advanced so (with no cynical intent, said the bletherer) did Martyn from the Palace goal. Far out of his penalty area, he crashed into Beardsley, making no obvious attempt to play the ball, and brought him down. The Laughing Referee, Mr Roger Milford, whom God preserve, showed not a red card but a yellow. I wish I could have read Southall's thoughts at that moment.

But Milford, the man who failed to book Gascoigne for his first, appalling foul in the Spurs v Forest FA Cup Final in 1991, leading to the disastrous second, is an original. Perhaps a believer in rough justice.

In the second half, Everton were awarded a free-kick. Snodin took it while the ball was rolling, some ten yards away from the site of the offence. While the Palace defence stood dumbstruck, Jackson ran happily on, and scored.

Milford's refereeing that afternoon passed all understanding. But I felt sorry for Ashby at QPR; he seemed essentially a victim of the rules, which he was interpreting to the best of his ability.

The Professional Foul rule, though seriously distorted by FIFA, remains admirable as far as offences committed OUTSIDE the penalty box are concerned, but puts a colossal burden on the already overtaxed referee. Nor do I think that Sepp Blatter's

Fiasco over 'our' foreigners . . . again

Guentchev . . . allowed to stay despite having just one cap.

FOREIGNERS and fiasco. Hard to make any sense about present policy in the Premier and Football Leagues over who should and who should not be allowed to play here.

Take the case of Bontcho Guentchev. One moment he is going to be investigated and run out of the regiment, while Ipswich Town will be up before the beak.

The next, hey presto, he can stay, despite the fact that he arrived only on the understanding that he had a dozen caps for Bulgaria, when it transpired that he had only, and barely, one.

Since the Leagues involved, the FA, and the PFA are all allowed to put in their twopence worth, before the Department involved makes up its mind whether or not to grant a work permit, perhaps chaos is assured.

In Guentchev's case, the suggestion seemed to be that though he came in under false pretences, he had played so well that you just could not be so unkind as to send him away.

Such a choice seems at once subjective and sentimental. In the meantime, there's the case of Kasey; and the two American goalkeepers.

Millwall have signed Kasey Keller, a talented young American goalkeeper, who has performed with immense success. But good though he is, Keller does not, did not, meet the criterion supposedly essential. He was not an established international player. Indeed, I believe that for all his talent, he's not yet an international player at all.

Brad Friedel is; just. He did so well for the US team in the Barcelona Olympics, and has made an appearance for the senior team. Which was not enough, initially at least, to enable Nottingham Forest to sign him.

So Friedel signed for Tampa Bay Rowdies and went into protracted negotiations with the US World Cup team. Should he or shouldn't he sign a far less lucrative contract with them? Meanwhile he had every right to wonder how Keller so smoothly got into English football while he could not.

Oleg Salenko is another case. Spurs wanted to sign him from Kiev Dynamo and were prepared to shell out £750,000. Tottenham's transfers are not always blessed, but they are one of our major professional clubs, and presumably knew what they were doing.

No dice, they were told. Salenko had played only once for the Ukraine. Ergo, he was not an established international. Ergo, he could not come to England.

The following week, more anomaly. Manchester City signed one Norwegian international, Kare Ingebrigtsen, and Blackburn another, Henning Berg, but Portsmouth were refused leave to acquire a third, Jan Halvorsen.

The situation is complicated, undermined, if you like, by the fact that European Community law demands that any player from an EC country can play in any other, though there are limitations on the number who can actually figure in a given game.

National associations decide that. Thus, while the relevant, or irrelevant, authorities quibble about such players as Friedel and Salenko, of obvious stature, any old footballer can notionally come into the country from the EC nations.

You can understand that the PFA are anxious not to see their players undercut by the importation of cheap talent, but the present situation is one huge paradox.

evidence panacea, professional refs, would make it any different or any easier.

What Ashby had to decide, in the blink of an eye, was whether Southall had deprived Ferdinand of a goal.

Just how fine a judgement this was may be gauged from the fact that each manager saw it differently.

For Gerry Francis, the QPR manager, Ashby had no option but to send the goalkeeper off. For the Everton manager, Howard Kendall, it was quite the reverse. He felt that Watson was still between Ferdinand and Southall, a goal was most improbable, and a yellow card would have been enough.

Clearly the QPR crowd felt the same way.

My own instant reaction was to feel that Ashby was right, that Southall had to go.

In fairness, however, change and clarification seem mandatory. Perhaps the safest thing to do, however arbitrary it might seem, would be to enact that any keeper who handles outside his box is automatically expelled, whether or not a goal seems likely. At least referees and keepers would then know where they stood.

NEXT MONTH IN . . .

WORLD SOCCER

FREE

THE ITALIAN JOB

SERIE A SPECIAL

16 PAGE PULL OUT

EXTRA

PLUS

EXCLUSIVE CROSSTALK

JOHAN CRUYFF & JUPP HEYNCKES

SPOTLIGHT ON

IVAN ZAMORANO
DOCTOR KHUMALO
ROY KEANE

WORLD SOCCER is published by IPC Magazines Ltd.,IPC Specialist Group, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. World Soccer must not be sold at more than the recommended selling price shown on the front cover. Sole Agents for Australia and New Zealand: Gordon & Gotch Ltd, South Africa: Central News Agency. Subscription facilities (Inland and Overseas) available through Quadrant Subscription Services, Oakfield House, 35 Ferrymount Road, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex. RH16 3DH. For North America inquiries: Subscription Department, Reed Business Publishing, 205 East 42nd Street, Suite 1705, New York, NY 10017, USA. Tel: (212)867 2080. Fax (212) 983 0745.

All rights reserved and reproduction without permission strictly forbidden.

Printed in England by TPL Printers (UK) Ltd., Hartlebury, nr.Kidderminster. Origination by Meridan Media Services Ltd., Peterborough. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper. ISSN. 0043-9037. 2nd Class postage paid at Newark, NJ, U.S. Postmaster send address changes to *WORLD SOCCER* c/o Virgin Mailing and Distribution, Cargo Building, 150 Newark International Airport, New Jersey, NJ 07114.

©1993 IPC Magazines Ltd., England

43000

Mycil soothes the most annoying irritations.

CROOKES Healthcare

Stops Athlete's Foot in its tracks.